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Everywhere!



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Pipelines to Better Farming

Canada has accumulated a vast fund of agricultural knowledge, and many farmers are making good use of it. Yet, in the very shadow of some of our research institutions are farms that show little sign that agriculture has progressed beyond the most primitive stage.

Perhaps the pipelines between the laboratory and the farm aren't big enough nor the network extensive enough to carry a full flow of information to where it is needed. Some farmers seem to get their complete quota. But if the lines are laid to some other farms, they must be too low in capacity, or be stopped up; or else the farmer just doesn't bother to open the tap.

These farmers who aren't applying modern knowledge to their operations are a detriment to their communities. Erosion starting in their fields may seriously damage the land below them; the weeds they allow to flourish may pollute the whole neighbourhood; the scrub bull that hops over their tumbledown fences may ruin their neighbours' breeding plans.

These backward farmers are also responsible for other losses that are not so noticeable but just as real. If they are unable to pay their taxes, schools and other services will suffer, and others may have to carry a heavier burden. Then, too, their families seldom pull their weight in the community, and even if feuds don't develop, social life is bound to suffer. And when community spirit flags, young men and women leave for the city.

These backward farmers are a community problem, and the only real solution must come from within the community. It would be impossible, in a democracy,

for government officials to go out and goad each of them into enlightened activity. But the indifference of so many of our farmers presents a threat to that very democracy we want to preserve and improve.

One possible method of attack is for farmers to organize for the improvement of farming in the community. They could arrange meetings, short courses and demonstrations to meet their needs. In most cases they could bring out the people who are hard to reach, by talking to them as neighbour to neighbour. They would be in the position of asking for the information they wanted, instead of waiting in the hope that someone would bring it to them. And once they had this information they could apply it in an organized manner.

In some places farm forums and farmers' associations have already undertaken work along this line. In others they could readily be organized to do it.

With farmers organized in this way the agricultural representative could deal with several dozen at a time, instead of just a few. This would enable him to cover his district much more effectively in a fraction of the time, giving him more chance to keep up with the latest developments in farming, so that he could serve his community even better.

The end results would be more prosperous farmers, more leisure time, and more enjoyment of life.

But no one else can pipe these things to us. Only farmers themselves can ensure a full flow and wide distribution of agricultural information with its great possibilities.

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The Land We Live On Looking Underneath the Surface

by W. A. DeLong

ANYONE who has dug out deep-rooted plants can understand the importance of subsoil. Many plants send their roots down 18 inches or two feet, and alfalfa roots go down as far as 16 feet under favourable conditions, in search of plant food. The more food they find, the better the crop will thrive. So the lower levels of soil are of great importance to farmers.

By going out with a spade to a spot that has never been cultivated, we can learn much about the way the soil was formed. Digging down, we find that the soil is in layers, which have developed as soil-forming material was acted on by frost, wind and water. Layering is especially striking near the surface, where climatic effects are most intense. It supplies a key to the soil's agricultural value.

In Quebec there are two main types of layering, represented by leached and incompletely leached soils. In the Maritimes, most of the soil, except for marshes, is of the leached type.

If a spot is covered with a beech, birch, pine or spruce forest, you can be pretty certain that it is leached soil. In their natural state these leached soils show an acid, dark-colored surface layer rich in organic matter, and below it a light-coloured layer often ash-like in appearance. Such soils are called podzols, a descriptive Russian word meaning "ash underneath."

The lighter colour of the second layer is due to the fact that it contains very much less of the materials which usually colour soils — organic matter and iron. The iron has been dissolved out of this leached layer by the downward-moving solution from the surface, and deposited below in a third layer. This often contains a layer of hardpan, and is usually red-brown in colour, when moist. In addition to iron, this hardpan falls heir to much cal-



The sharp division between the dark surface layer and the lighter coloured subsoil in podzols is shown in this photo.

It was a farmer wise to the ways of men, who said: "It's better to be on poor land than on good land, because it makes a better farm."

When the land is poor a man has to put a lot into it to get anything out. But if it is good he may wear it out without knowing it until he finds his land fast becoming barren.

If a farmer knows what his land is and what it needs he can handle it intelligently, building up its productivity from year to year.

Here are descriptions of the two main types of Eastern Canadian soils, with suggestions on how to crop and manage them for good long-term results.

cium, phosphorous, potassium and other desirable plant food which has been washed down from the upper layers of soil.

Under cultivation the two upper layers of podzols are usually mixed together, resulting in a grey or brown-coloured surface soil.

As podzols are usually lacking in crumb formation the individual particles are easily washed away by rains. So these soils are subject to erosion when occupied by clean-cultivated, wide-spaced crops, as well as when land used for other crops is bare in the spring, fall or winter. That accounts for the muddy brown colour of many of our streams in the spring. Fields under grass are not so subject to erosion.

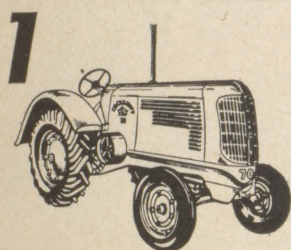
Podzols usually occur with sandy loam or loam soils. In their natural state they are very acid and fairly high in fertility; but for good crop production they require lime and phosphates. That makes them suitable for growing potatoes, hay and pasture; and if they are properly managed grain crops also do well on podzols. But it is necessary to guard constantly against erosion.

Where there are maple, oak and elm forests, we usually find incompletely leached soils. These have no well-marked leached layer, even in their uncultivated state. The change in colour from the surface downward often consists of a gradual fading out of the dark brown shade of the top layer. Usually there is no hardpan, and plant food element such as calcium are more abundant throughout the soil than in podzols, although they may not be enough to grow really good crops. Earthworms usually abound, and assist in the even distribution of organic matter which is shown by the gradualness of the colour change.

(Continued on page 9)

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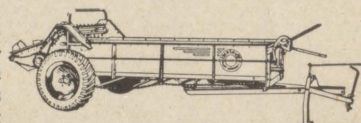
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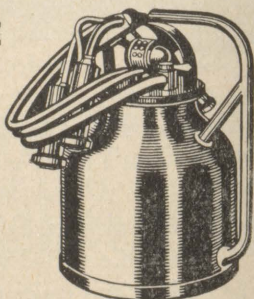
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Boosting the Lamb Harvest

by L. H. Hamilton

SPRING is the season of the sheep harvest. Preparations for the lamb crop should, of course, start in the fall; but there are several things we can still do to increase the year's returns. A little extra attention to the ewes will increase the number of strong, healthy lambs.

Dig down in the hay mow and set aside the best hay you can find for your ewes. There is nothing better than good hay for ewes at or near lambing time. Legumes provide the most nutritious hay, and the second cut is usually better than the first.

Ewes can get along quite well on very little feed during the early stages of pregnancy; but during the last third, the ewe flock must be reasonably well fed, as it is at this stage that the unborn lamb makes its greatest growth. Ewes that are in poor condition should get a little grain—from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 pound per day according to condition.

Most sheep men prefer to feed whole oats with a little bran and oil cake mixed in—say 5 lbs. bran and $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. oil cake to each 100 lbs. oats. This should be fed for 3 or 4 weeks prior to lambing.

Salt, fresh water and exercise are always essential. Salt is best fed as iodized rock salt, placed in a box or a corner of the trough where the sheep have free access to it.

Exercise is important, but not too easy to provide for in places where the snow is deep. One way to make ewes exercise is to feed them at some distance from the barn.

Ewes should also have constant access to a mineral mixture. The ordinary commercial mixtures are satisfactory. One commonly used is the same as for dairy cows, and consists of: Bone meal 19 lbs., ground limestone 1 lb., salt 10 lbs., potassium iodide .1 oz. and cobalt sulphate .6 gram.

Ewes respond to little attentions more than any other class of stock. They should be kept comfortable, their pens clean and well bedded. The troughs should always be cleaned before feeding.

Shortly before lambing it is a good plan to trim the tail and hind quarters. This helps to keep the ewe clean at lambing; and a little trimming around the udder makes it easier for lambs to nurse.

Lambing pens are very desirable, especially if it is cold. They should be warm enough to prevent chilling of newborn lambs. They should be airy but not draughty, and plenty of window space is an asset.

As a ewe approaches lambing she should be put into the special pen. Some sheepmen always give each ewe a pen to herself. She is kept there until she is thoroughly acquainted with her lamb and, in purebred flocks, until the lamb is marked.

Then the ewe is turned out with others that have lambs of a similar age. They are closely watched for a few days



More healthy lambs are secured when ewes are given a little extra attention around lambing time.

for udder troubles, and the lambs are watched for constipation.

Feeding has to be regulated, and changes made gradually. Ewes that have gained in condition for a couple of weeks before lambing usually have plenty of milk. Sometimes, in fact, a ewe may have too much for a single lamb, and it causes scouring. In other cases constipation occurs. Castor oil is especially useful in both cases. In bad cases of scouring lime water is helpful.

Get the lambs feeding as soon as possible. This is another time a bit of really good hay helps. The lambs will nibble at the leaves, and at about three weeks they will begin to eat a bit of grain—rolled oats are good for them to start on. A creep in a nice airy pen encourages feeding and brings more rapid growth.

During the second week after birth all the lambs should be docked, and males not intended for breeding should be castrated. These are simple operations.

At the College, we dock our lambs with an old rasp that has been flattened and sharpened similar to a chisel. The point need not be sharp, but it must be reasonably fine to heat quickly.

We heat with charcoal. An old pail with holes punched here and there for draft is used to hold the fire. The docking iron must be heated to a deep red. Then, with the tail held against a block, it is burned off at the proper joint. Purebreds are usually docked at the second or third joint from the body, depending on the breed.

When properly done there is no bleeding. The wound heals quickly, and the operation is very little trouble. Castration can be done at the same time.

(Continued on page 11)



*Short Course
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Brings New REWARDS

How much work goes into a ton of silage? If, like many farm boys, you've had a share in silo filling with corn binder and stationary cutter, you know the answer is . . . plenty. And it's hard work. Big green corn bundles make it just about the heaviest job of the year.

Filling silos that way is expensive, too. Whether you hire most of the work done, or "swap" help with your neighbors, it takes a lot of man-hours. Add it all up and silage becomes high-priced feed, or else everyone in the neighborhood crew is working for himself at a mighty low rate of pay.

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It Starves Plants - - and People

by H. K. Russell

THE people of the world will starve unless we stop erosion of the soil. That was the conclusion reached at a recent press conference on soil conservation at Macdonald College. Dr. W. A. DeLong, well known soil chemist, stated that if soil erosion continues at the present rate, the production of the land will not be enough to feed the world's steadily increasing population. Already one million square miles of once productive land have been ruined; and at the rate our soils are now eroding the ruination of the second million acres won't take as long as the first.

Now, what are we going to do about it?

First, we must give the matter of soil erosion a bit of thought and study. What is erosion, anyway? What causes it? What does it look like? All these questions must be answered before we can bring about the most effective measures of prevention and cure.

Let us consider the first question: "What is erosion?" It may be defined as the movement of soil, whether by wind or by water. Wind erosion was the kind they had on the Prairies during the dry thirties. The Western farmer will tell us that the soil has been cropped so intensively it became as fine and as dry as dust, and the wind simply blew it away.

Here in Eastern Canada our main concern is with water erosion — much less spectacular than wind erosion, but just as final. Dr. DeLong clearly illustrated how water erosion does its damage. He pointed out that when white men first arrived on the scene the hills, valleys and plains were clothed with trees and grass. Many of the smaller brooks and rivers were dammed by beavers. The foliage protected the soil from the direct force of the raindrops. The roots and organic layer of the soil soaked up much of the moisture storing it for future needs during the dry summer. There was little or no erosion.

Then came civilization with axes, plows and poor judgment. The dams were kicked out, and the hills stripped of their timber. The land was plowed, and the soil laid bare to the elements. The fields were dropped year after year, and nothing was returned. The soils became so starved that they couldn't maintain a sod. There were no roots or organic matter to absorb the moisture. So the water ran down the surface of the hills, into the river, and thence out



Spring floods like this one at Lennoxville on the St. Francis River in Quebec occur because hillsides up river have been stripped of their trees.

to sea, taking the topsoil with it. Hill farms were abandoned because there was no topsoil. Valley farms were flooded every spring, because the rivers couldn't hold all the water and soil flowing from the hills.

That's how erosion works. It turns a land of milk and honey into a region of desolation.

Now, how are we going to recognize erosion when we see it? Well, just plant your corn in rows up and down a steep hillside, and wait for a big July rain. If all the seedlings, with a generous amount of topsoil, as well as the scarecrow and cultivator, wash down to the bottom of the hill, and there's a big gully where the field used to be, that's erosion. Sometimes it's just that plain — a dead furrow, a drill row, a drainage ditch, even wagon tracks straight down a hill have been known to develop into a gully in a surprisingly short time.

Usually, however, it is not quite so spectacular. But there are other signs, easily read if you know what to look for and where to look. Professor L. C. Raymond, head of the Agronomy Department at Macdonald, explained that poverty grass on a hilltop is a sure sign of erosion. Poverty grass will grow on practically nothing; but it would be crowded out by better grasses if there were anything to support them.

Professor L. H. Hamilton of the Animal Husbandry Department maintained that "good crops that grow on good land produce good livestock," intimating that the state of the soil is reflected in the state of the animals on that soil.

Dr. W. E. Swales, Animal Pathologist, claimed that phosphorous deficiencies in the soil will result in bone diseases in the livestock. He agreed with Dr. DeLong, however, that when we are dealing with soil erosion, quantity is more important than quality. When we reach the stage

Our soil resources are being drained and our crop production lessened by erosion. How this enemy of the farmer can be recognized and subdued is described by Mr. Russell.

This story won the \$25 prize offered by the Macdonald College Journal for the best story based on a press conference on soil conservation.

where we are boiling the same soup-bone for the twenty-fifth time, no-one is going to quibble about its phosphorous deficiencies.

Well, now that we know what erosion is, what causes it and what it looks like, let's plan some action against it. We must direct our efforts from two angles — prevention and cure.

Prevention of erosion means keeping the soil covered. The maintenance of a healthy and vigorous growth of grass and legumes on a hillside is profitable, comparatively easy, and an effective check on erosion. The water will be absorbed by the roots and organic matter, instead of racing down to the river with the topsoil.

Hills which have not yet been denuded of their timber should be left as they are. Trees are the most inexpensively maintained prevention we have against erosion. Though they can't be used for permanent pasture they check the downhill run of water and keep the topsoil in its place.

Where it is absolutely necessary to cultivate a hillside, contour cultivation and terracing are sensible means. In any case, never cultivate straight up and down a hill. That's just asking for trouble.

For large scale preventive measures the farmer needs the help of government. Surveys of the soil are needed, to indicate the best way to handle the land on each farm. Publicity on soil conservation, though an indirect method, keeps the matter continually in the mind of the public.

Now for the cures. Unfortunately, some of our farms have already been washed free of their topsoil. They are almost a total loss. Little can be done but sit down and wait a few centuries till Nature repairs the damage.

Where there is still some topsoil left to work, however, something can be done. The fertility can be restored, lime added and a sod re-established. Sometimes it may be most profitable to promote the growth of bushes or trees.

Don't Put It Off

One should always remember, though, that putting the matter off till "next year" will simply mean more expense when the time does come. That is what has happened to most of our abandoned farms today. The damage went so far that the farmer couldn't handle the problem, and productivity dropped so low that he couldn't make a living. So he left. Now the problem of rejuvenating these farms rests on the country.

Although a start has been made in conservation, a great deal remains to be done. Reforestation will bring some farms back in time. Good cropping practices, liming and fertilization will redeem others. But large-scale soil surveys and a national soil conservation programme are required to protect our land — from hazards beyond the scope of a single farm, a county, or even a province — and build it up to grow better crops.

Curing soil erosion is a long, tedious job, but a necessary one. We don't want to lose our farms. And we don't want to see people starve because we let our soil go down the river.



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Why the Slump in Western Hogs ?

Since the East is directly affected by farming shifts in the West we're bringing you the story behind the recent decline in Prairie hog sales. This shows some of the things involved in fixing feed prices that will be fair to all Canadian farmers.

by Dr. Gordon L. Burton

IN 1939 Canadian farmers marketed 3.7 million hogs; in 1944 they sold some 8.9 million. Two years later, in 1946, only 4.5 million hogs met the man with the knife on their way to the rail. In 1946 Saskatchewan farmers sold only a quarter as many hogs as in 1944.

This sharply curtailed output of pork products has been extremely discouraging to the proponents of diversified farming in Canada and even more disheartening to bacon-hungry Britons looking eagerly to Canada for "pigmeat".

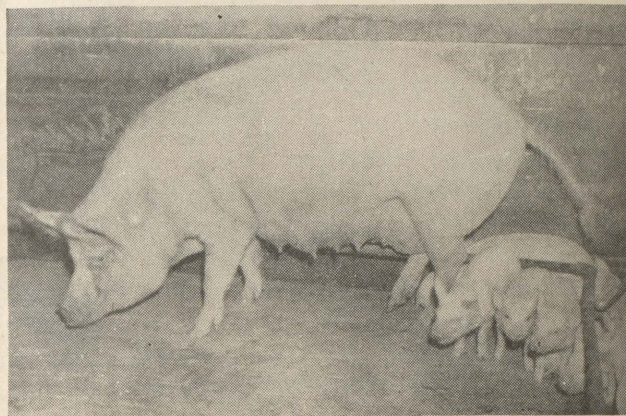
Our Agricultural leaders have repeatedly asked themselves, and anyone else within range of hearing, "Why?" None but the hog raiser himself knows for sure and even he is not always certain. One reason stands out above all the others and that is the pricing policy which has been applied to feed grains. Let us glance back for a moment at the methods used in pricing grains used for feed.

Ceilings were placed upon coarse grains in late 1941 and early 1942 as a part of the overall price control program. A maximum price of $64\frac{3}{4}$ cents per bushel was fixed for barley and $51\frac{1}{2}$ cents for oats, basis in store, Fort William. The Americans were at this time rapidly expanding their livestock enterprises. They needed feed grains and the lack of a rigorous program of price control in the United States permitted them to bid up the price.

In order to hold an adequate supply of these feed grains in Canada it became necessary to adopt a system of export restrictions. Nonetheless, substantial quantities of oats and barley were shipped south under export permit. Some equitable means of distributing among Canadian producers the higher returns realized from these sales had to be found.

Those responsible for the making of agricultural policy in Canada came up in the spring of 1943 with a scheme of "equalization payments". Anyone exporting oats or barley was charged an equalization fee which was approximately equal to the difference between the Canadian and American price. These fees went into a fund which was pro-rated back to those producers who had delivered these two feed grains. Finally an "advance equalization payment" of 15 cents per bushel for barley and 10 cents for oats was paid to the farmer when he delivered his grain to the elevator.

Although it was apparently not realized at the time, this practice discriminates in favor of the livestock feeder who buys all or a part of his feed grains. At the same time the feeder who usually sells at least a part of his crop must, in effect, pay a higher price for the grain which



Western farmers have been breeding fewer sows because they considered it didn't pay them to feed pigs.

he feeds than the specialized feeder. Since the great majority of the hog producers in the Prairie Provinces sell, as cash grain, at least a part of their oat and barley crops, this policy dealt the hog industry a severe blow. How severe it really was did not become apparent until 1945.

How, now, does this practice of making equalization payments discourage grower-feeders from marketing their grain through livestock? The answer is simple. If Farmer Brown of Aneroid, Saskatchewan, sells his barley he receives the ceiling price of $64\frac{3}{4}$ cents, less freight, plus an equalization payment of 15 cents, or a total of $79\frac{3}{4}$ cents per bushel. If he feeds some of this barley to hogs it is costing him $79\frac{3}{4}$ cents which is what he could sell it for. Now the ratio between the price of hogs and the ceiling price of barley, plus equalization payment, has not been high enough to persuade Prairie farmers to feed their barley to hogs.

Feeders Have Advantage

Specialized livestock producers who sell no oats or barley can, on the other hand, buy these grains at ceiling prices and thus the cost to them of grain which they feed is less by the amount of the equalization payment. Any given price of hogs thus gives such producers a much more favorable barley-hog ratio than it does to the man who raises his barley, sells some, and feeds some.

The hog raiser in Eastern Canada has not been adversely affected by this policy, irrespective of whether he grows or buys his feed grains, since the equalization payments were made only in the Prairie Provinces. Indeed the hog producer in the East has benefitted from this policy. In

the first place, these payments have encouraged marketings of coarse grains in the West and thus made larger supplies available to him. Secondly, the Dominion government has been paying freight from the Lakehead to Eastern Canada on all grains moved for feeding purposes.

Prior to the war, the man raising hogs in Quebec paid a price for Western barley which was higher than that prevailing in the Prairies by the cost of transportation and handling. Since 1943 the Quebec feeder has received the immediate benefit, at least, of a freight subsidy of about 13 cents per bushel on barley. In addition the normal spread between the price of barley to the grower-feeder in Saskatchewan and the feeder in Quebec has been reduced by the 15 cent (now 20 cent) equalization payment. If we assume that the average hog requires 20 bushels of barley to fit him for market, the Eastern feeder has been enabled to cut the normal margin between his feed costs and that of the Western grower-feeder by about \$5.60 per hog. A saving in feed costs of nearly \$6.00 on a \$30.00 hog helps to explain why farmers in Central Canada have seen fit to maintain a higher level of hog production than have those on the Prairies.

Other factors have contributed in varying degree to the decline in hog raising in Western Canada. Some farmers who raised hogs for patriotic reasons in 1943 and 1944 have gone back to grain production alone. High income tax rates may have discouraged others. Higher incomes from good grain yields and favourable prices may have persuaded still others that hogs were not worth the additional work which they involved. The government's practice of announcing higher prices for hogs after, rather than before, breeding time has also taken its toll. In the writer's opinion, however, the price policy which was adopted for grain must bear the brunt of the burden.

The difficulties associated with the maintenance of effective price controls in Canada were enhanced by the much greater increase in prices which were permitted in the United States. On the whole Canada did an exceptionally fine job of price control. It is often difficult to foresee the ultimate effects of any proposed program of managed prices. Nevertheless if we are to have price controls, the probable effects of such controls must be painstakingly examined in advance of their implementation.

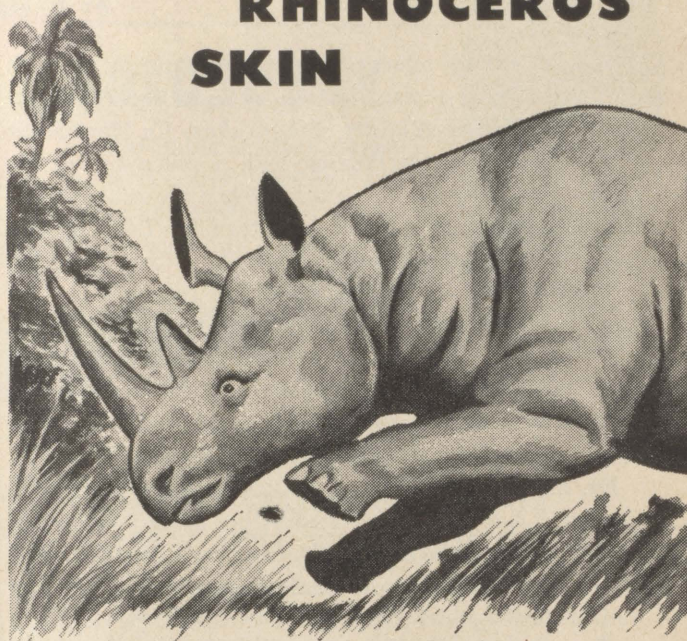
Looking Under the Surface

(Continued from page 2)

Incompletely leached soils are usually clay loam or clay. They are more desirable for general farming than podzols, as they are less acid, higher in lime and richer in plant food elements in the surface layers. They have more crumb formation than the podzols and so are less subject to erosion.

Because they will produce fairly good crops without lime or fertilizer there is a tendency for farmers to crop these incompletely leached soils to death by exhausting their stores of plant food. They usually give excellent results when their organic content and fertility are maintained through good rotations and manuring or fertilization, although sometimes they also need liming.

TOUGH AS RHINOCEROS SKIN



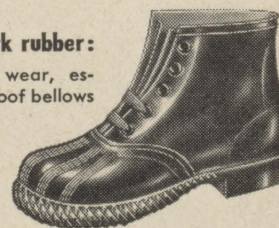
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Pioneer in Maritime Progress

by L. H. Hamilton

FOR his energy, scholarship and mental ability, we look upon him as a giant in his day" said the Honorable A. W. MacKenzie, Minister of Agriculture for Nova Scotia in presenting Dr. MacPherson with a fellowship in the Agricultural Institute of Canada. When we called to see Dr. MacPherson we found him teaching Latin to two young high school students in his study. When I told Dr. MacPherson that we were interested in getting a few details on his work he smilingly replied there was little to tell. However, I was able to find out something about his early work as a pioneer in agriculture and the outstanding projects he started. I was also able to piece together some of the other events in an interesting and eventful life.

Dr. MacPherson was born at Fraser's Mills, Antigonish Co., Nova Scotia, his great grandfather being a veteran of the battle of Culloden. After obtaining his Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint Francis Xavier University in 1893 he studied theology in Rome where he received the degree of Ph.D. and D.D. in 1899. Before leaving the continent he took a special course in applied science at Lille University in France. On returning to Nova Scotia he joined the teaching staff at Saint Francis Xavier and remained there until 1914.

He became actively engaged in agriculture in that year when he was appointed Agricultural Representative for Antigonish County. He was thus able to effect some basic developments and policies in agriculture which have been growing steadily in the last thirty years.

I asked Dr. MacPherson what he considered were the most important steps taken during his time with the

Department of Agriculture. Among other things he remembered quite clearly the first time wool was handled by a farmers' organization. It was in 1915 and as there were no definite standards on grade at that time the wool was merely collected and sold to the highest bidder. From such a small beginning can be traced the present day Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers. The following year lambs were handled in a similar manner but, as in wool, no grades had been established and the only classification was one of weight. This slight advance in marketing was the beginning of a trend which today is developing into world-wide significance.

Started Co-operative Store

The first co-operative store was established under his guidance at St. Andrews in 1916 and today it is still flourishing—attribute to progressive thinking and planning. He was truly a pioneer in co-operative thought and action and much of the early and fundamental work can be attributed to his untiring efforts. He likes to recall his efforts with other members of the Department in establishing Heifer Clubs in his area. Those clubs were the forerunners of the present day Boys' and Girls' Calf Clubs.

In the fall of 1921 he was recalled to the University at Antigonish where he became professor of engineering and geology, a position which he occupied until 1937. However, he still found time to devote part of his ability to agricultural pursuits and from 1916 until 1932 he was manager of the Mount Cameron Farm, where his keen knowledge of Ayrshire cattle enabled him to develop an outstanding herd. The presence today of a number of fine Ayrshire herds in the surrounding country is a credit to his knowledge of that breed. He also found time to encourage other Ayrshire breeders in Nova Scotia and was for many years secretary of the Nova Scotia Ayrshire Breeders' Association.

Some of his time as professor at Saint Francis Xavier University was devoted to the promotion of athletics. He was coach of the Saint Francis Xavier hockey team that defeated Harvard in 1910 and also coach of the football team that brought honors for a number of years to the college. He was a pioneer golfer in Nova Scotia and also a keen swimmer.

In 1937 he joined the Extension Department of Saint Francis Xavier University and was again able to devote his entire time to the betterment of rural life. He has acted as agricultural adviser to the movement and is responsible for much of the study club material used in adult education among the farmers.

Believing that the basis of successful farming lies in proper soil management he maintained his private labora-



The water from the "valley" isn't really running up hill to reach the culvert, J. W. Graham explains to some visitors from Ontario and Quebec. Moncton's famous "magnetic hill" is really an optical illusion created by the steeper slope of the hill beyond.

tory at the college where he can give first hand attention to special soil problems. At the moment he is particularly interested in the work of Sir Albert Howard, an eminent British agriculturalist whose book "An Agricultural Testament" has created a stir among soil workers.

A project which has been going for some time in Nova Scotia and which promises much for the future "The Farm Improvement Plan" is a direct result of Dr. MacPherson's thought and planning. He was instrumental in convincing the Department of Agriculture in Nova Scotia that much progress could be made if farmers were assisted directly in planning their farm economy by a trained man who devoted his fulltime to the project. Today over one hundred farmers have taken advantage of the service. He believes that such a plan will enable many farmers to improve their work and that it will be successful as long as the farmers take an active part in the planning.

We hear much today of the conflict between science and the art of living. In Dr. MacPherson we find a happy combination of the scientific mind adaptable to the problems of every day life. In him the two live side by side. He speaks seven languages fluently, he has directed a choir and glee club, he has taught Violin, Gaelic, Italian, German, Chemistry, Biology and Surveying. He is an outstanding product of Nova Scotia whose work has produced results that have spread far beyond the borders of the Maritimes.

Boosting the Lamb Harvest

(Continued from page 4)

The next important operation is treating the flock for worms. We follow the plan of treating our ewes after lambing and before they get outside. This plan was developed following the discovery that stomach worms do not live over the winter on pastures, so it is enough to eliminate any worms that sheep may carry through the winter. Since following this practice we have not found it necessary to give any treatment to our lambs, and only this one treatment a year to older stock.

Our system is to give not less than three Phenothiazine tablets per head to ewes, shearlings and rams. These tablets can be obtained from your local veterinarian or from the nearest branch of the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers Ltd.

Before sheep go to pasture they should be shorn. This should be done on a fairly warm day, and the sheep should be protected from the cold for a while. Shearing at this time has to be done with machine shears, and should be carried out on a clean floor. The shearing should be done evenly, and the fleece kept in one piece. After it is off, snip off any tags or discoloured wool and put them in a separate bunch. Then roll the fleece up neatly, flesh side out, and tie it with paper twine.

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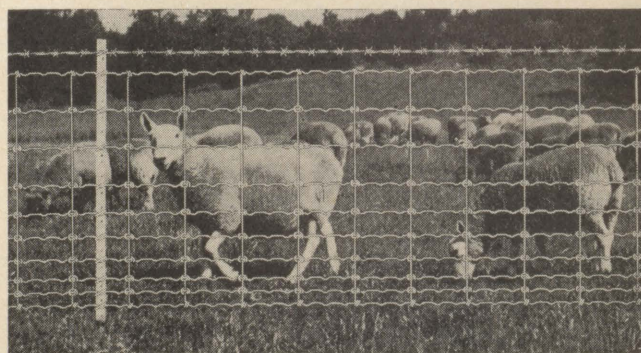
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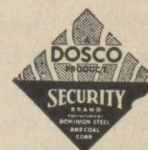


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Montreal

Is This the Lamb We Need?

by J. W. Graham

Maritime sheep may have met market demands 25 years ago, but since then the demands have completely changed. Here's the story of how lambs are being developed to meet modern needs on a strongly competitive market.

WE have failed to keep abreast of the times with our sheep flocks. In the last decade marketing conditions in the Maritimes have been completely revolutionized, but we are still using the same breeds and methods of production that were popular half a century ago.

We are attempting to cater to a midsummer to early fall market that demands an early-maturing lamb of excellent conformation, finish and quality. But what do we use to do it? Breeds suited by nature and environment to produce big-framed, late-maturing lambs. The majority of carcasses run strongly to lengthy frames with little of the thick fleshing and adequate finish essential for choice lamb cuts.

What we need to do is to develop a type of sheep suited to our present market requirements, then bring our production and management practices up to date. Simple? Not exactly, but quite possible.

To understand the qualities of each breed we need to know something about its background. All of the breeds found in the Maritimes originated in Great Britain, each being developed to meet some special set of conditions. There, pure breeds fall into three main categories — Hill breeds, Down breeds and Long-wooled breeds.

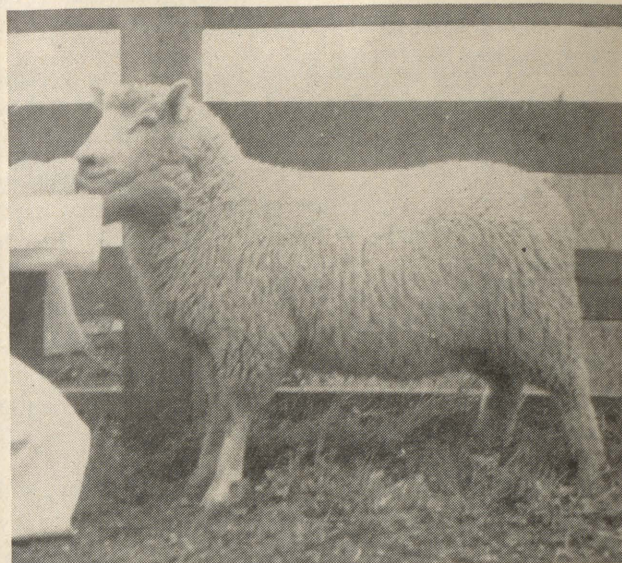
Hill breeds are generally characterized by medium to long wool, flesh of very good flavour and carcasses of a handy size and medium conformation. These breeds are native to all hill or mountain country from Scotland down to Wales. The Cheviot is the only one of this group we need deal with here.

The Down breeds are native to low, chalky areas and brashy, sandy districts, mainly in the southern half of England. They are closer wooled and of compact conformation, with flesh of fine eating quality. These breeds include the Shropshire, Southdown, Oxford, Suffolk and several others we need not bother about.

Of these breeds the Oxford is the biggest frame, the latest-maturing and the least suitable for present-day market requirements. Shropshires and Southdowns are valued for their high quality carcasses of reasonably early maturity. Suffolks have good flesh, but their legs are shanky.

The Long-wooled breeds are mainly found in lowland areas and were originally kept for their fleeces. The Leicester is the only one of this group that concerns us at the moment.

This flash-back shows plainly that British breeds were originated and kept, down through the years, in certain



A typical crossbred lamb sired by a Cheviot ram.

districts to which they were peculiarly adapted. Contrast this with the situation in Eastern Canada and the Maritimes, where a cross-section of all types of sheep are kept, even though geographical conditions hardly vary one iota, and where all are now used to produce market lambs as a primary product, with wool a secondary consideration.

Still, things have improved since a couple of decades ago, when 15 or more breeds were to be found in the Maritimes. Now two breeds predominate, — Oxford and Shropshire. In lesser favour are Southdowns, Cheviot and Leicesters. Latterly a few Suffolks have found fanciers, but are not generally looked on with favour because of the heavy infiltration of dark fibre in their fleeces, due to their solid black faces and legs.

Until the passing of the Fordney-McCumber tariff in 1922 the bulk of Maritime lambs were marketed in Boston, and were shipped in October and November. Weights up to 120 pounds were quite acceptable. Under these conditions lambs of late-maturing breeds, such as Oxfords, could acquire a reasonable degree of finish.

Tariff Changed Things

But the picture changed with the virtual closing of the U.S. market when the tariff came down, and many farmers sold out their flocks completely. In 10 years our sheep population was halved. And when the Hawley-Smoot tariff closed the gate to the U.S. tighter still, there was a further decline in our flocks.

We were left with only the Canadian market. But so far little has been done to adapt our breeds to that market's demands for lambs of more compact conformation, with accompanying early maturity and good finish. Carcass grading has shown this problem up clearly; and if we read the

signs properly we can plainly see that it must be solved if we are to hold what remains of our sheep industry.

Early-maturing lambs of choice conformation and quality can be produced in this country — we have plenty of proof of that. What is needed is a well planned, concerted effort to standardize lamb carcasses, much along the line adopted for hogs. There the market requirement dictated both the method of production and, to a considerable extent, the breed.

What the Farmer Did

How this might be done is shown by the story of a farmer at Nappan, N.S. He bought a number of ewes from a Shropshire-Leicester cross, and bred them to a Cheviot ram. 14 lambs were marketed on August 22, and an additional seven on September 16. The average age of the whole 21 lambs was 114 days, and average carcass weight 38.5 pounds, representing a yield of 48.5 percent of live weight on the farm.

The highest yield of 53.1 percent of home weight was obtained from a lamb dressing 42 pounds at 3½ months of age. As home or f.o.b. prices are based on a 43 percent yield, the extra yield on this carcass netted the owner \$3.18 over the basic price of 31½ cents a pound.

The 14 lambs first marketed brought \$28.01 in yield alone over the basic or f.o.b. price. The seven lambs sold later brought \$6.42 in added yield.

The conformation of these carcasses was ideal. Finish and quality were excellent, and all who saw them stated that they had never seen their equals.

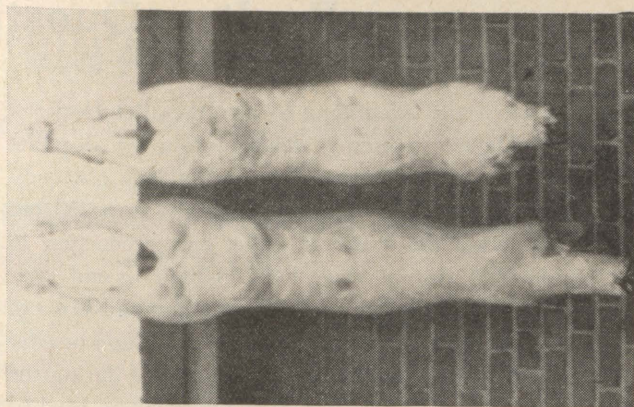
While not wanting to stress breed unduly, this story points up a fact that is widely recognized overseas—that the Cheviot is unequalled as a high yielder, and that carcasses from that cross are consistent winners at the National Carcass Competition at Smithfield and other similar markets in Great Britain.

It is also true that hybrid vigour, plus intelligent management — which included adequate pasture — played an important part in the result. But surely we are not taking too much for granted when we expect intelligent management and adequate feeding to be integral factors in livestock production of any kind.

Too Many Poor Carcasses

It is very discomfoting to see so many underfinished carcasses of inferior type flooding our markets regularly. Far too many of our lambs show lack of breediness and the results of inadequate pasturage. They may be better suited to developing into mutton carcasses as two-year-olds — but there is no longer a good market for the mutton now produced.

Tests are being carried on to find out whether a more suitable type of sheep can be developed. In one district in P.E.I. where the breed background is mainly Shropshire, with some sprinkling of Oxford, a group of Cheviot lambs were placed in the fall of 1946 under the Ram Club Policy. These rams will be used for two seasons, then transferred to another district. This work is being sponsored by a committee set up to find ways of improving Maritime sheep.



A run-of-the-mill carcass from a commercial flock, compared with a compact, thickly fleshed carcass from the crossbreeding experiment.

Rams of selected breeds are then to be used on the female progeny of the first and successive crosses in the P.E.I. project. Only meat-type rams will be used. Some switch from the original plan may be necessary because of shortages of rams of desired breeds. But the committee intends to use open-faced, large type Shropshires followed by North Country Cheviots or Crosses, Montadales, Dorset Downs (not to be confused with Dorset Horns) or Corriedales, then back to Border Cheviots.

This will provide a rotation system of breeding, using the same ram for two years. Hybrid vigour should be maintained, and by keeping within the recognized meat breeds the progeny should be early-maturing and of greatly improved conformation and quality.

This project will either prove the committee in charge of it wrong — in which case we will be no worse off than we are now — or it will provide the key to improvement in lamb type.

Steers Thrive On Good Grass

Further evidence that substantial gains can be made by beef cattle when fed nothing but good pasture, is given by trial results at the Iowa State College pasture improvement farm.

Final tabulations on 1946 trials, reported by M. L. Peterson, Iowa State agronomist, show the average daily gain of beef cattle for all pasture used was 1.66 pounds per acre. The average total gain per animal for the 175-day grazing period was 290.5 pounds.

The trial results show that the rate of gain on pasture is influenced both by the kind of pasture and by the way the pasture is handled.

Some indication of the effects of pasture treatment is given by the 1946 figures, Peterson points out. The average total gain per animal per acre was 164 pounds on untreated pasture. Where the pasture was limed and reseeded the comparable figure was 251 pounds. And where phosphate was added in addition to liming and reseeded, the total gain per acre was 281 pounds. But for steers to do well under this system the pasture must be really good.

Poultry Questions Answered

by W. A. Maw

Q.—What is the advantage of an all-pullet flock?

A.—Considerable interest is developing in the all-pullet flock type of management on many farms. The old question of cost of flock replacement appears to be ruled out when considering the value of pullet egg production in comparison with that of adult hens in their second year. We are now in a period of high late summer and fall egg prices. The adult hen, of course, is not in a position to offer an advantage for fall production, unless molted during the midsummer. The pullet, on the other hand, where hatched early, can be in lay for the early fall season; she lays at a heavier rate than the hen. Her egg may be smaller for a period of time, but the increased number of eggs laid offsets the advantage of size or grade of egg.

One distinct advantage in favour of the all-pullet flock is that no adults are kept from year to year to allow for possible disease carry-over and contamination of the young flock.

Another advantage is that, where a new flock is reared each year, greater meat sales result from both the hens and the cockerels sold.

Q.—Should chicks being reared for broilers or meat specifically be fed special rations during early growth?

A.—In some instances poultrymen feed special broiler growing mash from the start, whereas, in other cases, a regular starter mash is used and later supplemented by a special broiler ration mash or pellets. Such special feeds should be fed as recommended by the manufacturer. Some slight differences in feeding broiler chicks are practised, depending on whether the stock is battery or floor raised.

Q.—Should chicks be fed grit when fed an all-mash ration?

A.—All chicks need grit to have their gizzards function normally. In some instances chick starter mash has grit included, whereas no grit is available in others. It is therefore advisable to supply chick-size grit for all chicks during growth. After going on range the hen-size grit can be used. Some difficulty has been experienced in the past where growing stock lacked a supply of grit. Impactions of fibrous material may occur in the gizzard.

Q.—What is the most satisfactory roosting arrangement for turkeys in confinement?

A.—Where many porches are wire-floored and the roosts may be set high enough to cause the birds to fly or jump down distances of three feet or more, considerable foot and leg injury may result. Roosts should therefore be low set and, as is the common practice today, they are laid flat on the porch floor, arranged in the centre, to avoid interference in the feeding trough areas. 2 x 3 inch scantling material, with edges turned, set on edge makes a satisfactory roost.

Selecting the Best Chicks For Sale as Broilers

The production of broilers has developed greatly due to the increased popularity of this class of poultry meat in restaurant catering. Formerly, the demand for stock called for dressed carcasses averaging one and three-quarter pounds to two pounds. The present demand is swinging over to the heavier weight of approximately three pounds. This so-called heavy broiler or fryer is a more profitable size for the producer to handle, as most broiler stock comes from general-purpose breeds and their crossbreds. The reason this heavier stock is preferred to the Leghorn breed, or its crosses with general-purpose breeds such as Rocks, Hampshires or Reds is that it reaches a greater weight at the 10 to 12 week stage.

The production of fast-feathered heavy breeds has also had a definite influence on their use as broilers. The cross-bred broiler is proving to be the commercial stock showing greatest profits.

The greatest hazard in growing large groups of chicks for broilers has been the disease coccidiosis. Coccidiosis usually occurs under damp litter conditions and is more common during the spring and summer seasons. Where more than one age of chicken is being brooded at the same time, although housed separately, the chances of infestation being carried from one lot to another are great. This hazard has brought about the fact that, if broilers are to be handled most successfully, only one age of stock should be kept at a time. This practice has resulted in the development of large units of broilers being handled as three groups per year, allowing some time to clean house between lots.

Early spring chicks are the most popular for the producer handling only one lot per year, as cockerel chicks can be purchased at low cost. The males are the most profitable to carry as broilers, as their growth is more rapid for their age, since they normally attain a heavier weight than do the females. General-purpose pure breeds, such as the Barred Plymouth Rocks, New Hampshires, Sussex, Rhode Island Reds or White Wyandottes, make excellent broilers. Cross-breds from any two of these breeds are usually superior to the pure breeds by way of livability, growth and feathering.

Special attention must be given to having well-feathered stock at dressing age. With reasonable selection of stock for type and feathering and management of the chicks for broilers, the heavy broiler at 12 weeks of age shows good profit.



CO-OPERATION AND MARKETING

A page of interest to members of farmer's co-operatives

Income Tax Discussions Feature Federee Meeting

'Co-operatives make better citizens', says H. C. Bois

That the new Federal income tax is not high enough to endanger co-operative expansion was the opinion of leading officials at the annual meeting of the Co-operative Fédérée held in Montreal on Feb. 20-21. The new provisions will slow up the accumulation of adequate reserves and the repayment of borrowed capital but with good management the co-operatives can survive and prosper under them.

All co-operatives must now make an income tax return and delegates were urged by R. Houde of the Federee staff to begin now to plan for this necessity. An Income Tax Service has been set up by the Federee and its facilities are now offered to the member co-operatives. A majority of the co-ops have already accepted this service.

In calculating the tax three main items must be taken into account, it was explained: (1) the net earnings, less the patronage refunds (2) earnings from non-member business (3) 3 per cent of the capital employed, less the interest paid on borrowings from banks and Credit Unions. The highest of these items is the basis of the tax, which amounts to 30 per cent. The tax is payable six months after the close of the co-operative year.

A further campaign is being pressed in protest against these provisions and support for it was asked.

Revenue below 1945

The financial statement presented by J.T. Noel to the 700 delegates showed a gross turnover of \$37 million in 1946, a drop of \$2 million from the 1945 record. This was due largely to the drop in cheese production of 34 per cent and was the occasion for a warning by H.C. Bois, the General Manager. A net balance of \$76,548 was reported from which patronage dividends will be paid. The year saw an expansion of the plant holdings of the Co-operative Fédérée to include an abattoir at Quebec City and an extension of the abattoir at Princeville.

English Speaking Section

President J.A. Pinsonneault of Sherrington welcomed the English-Speaking Section. H.C. Bois spoke to the section on the Future of Co-operation — maintaining that the future depended on the value of Co-operation itself. "Co-ops make better citizens because the members are proud of their management of their own enterprises, are broadened by contact with their fellows and are practiced in the ways of democracy", he said.

Co-operation has improved the economic situation of the 144,000 farmers of Quebec. The existence of the Federee has had an indirect influence on the price of all farm products and equipment, he claimed. The speaker outlined the

function of inter-provincial co-operation between the co-operative organizations, showing the advantages of mass buying — and how costs of distribution and collection can be cut.

"A movement which can show an increase in membership from 10,000 to 50,000 in the agricultural field from 1930 to 1946 can look with confidence to the future", he concluded.

Three new members were elected to the Board. J.A. Pinsonneault continues as President, H.C. Bois as General-Manager, and Romeo Martin as Secretary.

Quebec Supports Agricultural Education

At the end of last year there were thirty four institutions in the Province of Quebec where instruction in agriculture is given to some two thousand pupils.

University training in agriculture is given at Macdonald College, at the Agricultural Institute of Oka and at Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere. There are sixteen regional Intermediate schools of agriculture, and similar instruction is given in six orphanages at various points in the province. Elementary instruction in farming is given in nine special rural schools.

The government awarded, in 1946, fifty-three special scholarships to an agricultural school as prizes to winners of club competitions and has granted study bursaries to ten students who are taking training outside the province. In addition to this, every student enrolled for a course in agriculture, who is a native of the Province of Quebec, is given a monthly grant of \$9.00 while he is in attendance at school, whether it be at college, at an intermediate or at a primary school.

Projects to be supported by the Department in 1947 include courses for junior group leaders, classes in rural electrification, rural hygiene, and the preparation of films for class use.

647 Agricultural Co-operatives in Quebec

On the 1st of January 1947, 647 agricultural co-operatives were in operation in the Province of Quebec, with a total membership of 57,000. The turnover of those organizations amounted to \$60,000,000. These figures do not include those of the Co-operative Fédérée with more than 400 local co-operatives and a turnover of close to \$40,000,000.

21 new co-operatives were incorporated from the 1st of April to the 31st of December, 1946.

MARKET COMMENTS

GRAIN

A recent announcement recorded that the price of wheat for domestic consumption, both as flour and feed, would be increased thirty cents (.30) per bushel. This increase will not increase the price of bread as in that case the "drawback" which the millers receive will be increased proportionally. The increase will be passed on to the feeder in higher prices for feed wheat.

POTATOES

Three million bushels of potatoes from the Maritimes will be exported to Britain. The price at the sea-board is \$1.65 per hundredweight.

LIVE STOCK

Beef has been scarce for some time. This has been attributed to the weather interfering with transporting to market. To the extent this is true this scarcity will be only seasonal. Veal reached \$18.00 per cwt., in Montreal. Veal prices are more seasonal than some other lines of live stock.

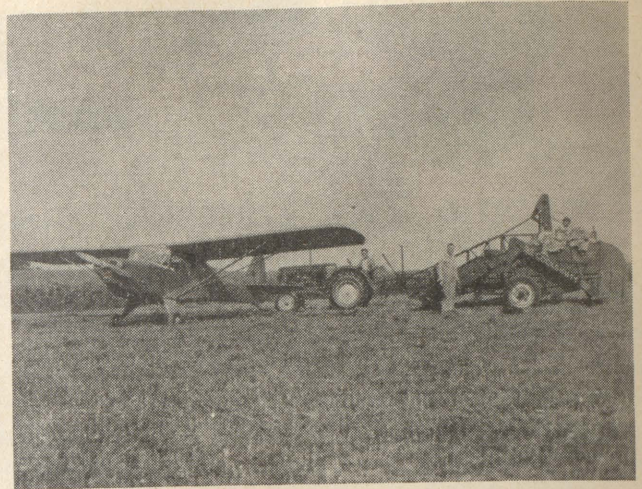
The report of the Bureau of Statistics announces that some 40,000 more sows are bred to farrow from December 1946 to May 1947 than was reported during the same period of the previous year. The number of hogs slaughtered under inspection for the first six (6) weeks of 1947 was 461,413, as contrasted with 610,191 in the same period 1946.

TRANSPORTATION

The importance of transportation has been stressed this season. Grain movement was recently given priority in securing cars. This regulation was modified later to provide the necessary cars to enable pulp mills to keep going.

TREND OF PRICES

	1946 Feb.	1947 Jan.	1947 Feb.
LIVE STOCK:	\$	\$	\$
Steers, good, per cwt.....	12.95	13.45	13.60
Cows, good, per cwt.	9.60	10.48	10.60
Cows, common, per cwt....	7.65	8.25	8.60
Canners and cutters, per cwt.	6.60	7.40	7.78
Veal, good and choice, per cwt.	16.50	16.00	16.50
Veal, common, per cwt....	13.25	14.45	14.73
Lambs, good, per cwt.		15.00	15.00
Lambs, common, per cwt..	12.45	9.45	10.20
Bacon Hogs, B1, dressed, per cwt.	19.25	23.10	21.85
ANIMAL PRODUCTS:			
Butter, per lb.	.36	.42	.42
Cheese, per lb.	.22	.23	.23
Eggs, Grade A, large, per dozen	.36	.40½	.36
Chicken, live 5 lbs. plus, per lb.	.29	.27	.28
Chicken, dressed, milk-fed A, A, per lb.	.36	.35	.35
FRUIT AND VEGETABLES:			
Apples, B.C. McIntosh, Extra Fancy, per box	3.95	3.75	3.90-4.00
Potatoes, Quebec, No. 1, per 75 lb. bag	1.90	1.20-1.25	1.15-1.25
FEED:			
Bran, per ton	29.00	29.00	29.00



The Flying Repairman

An up-and-coming serviceman is George Newman, the Cockshutt representative at Charlottetown, P.E.I. When a breakdown of farm machinery threatens costly delay, he flies to the job in his own plane. The photo was taken on the farm of the Hon. J. Walter Jones, farmer-premier of Prince Edward Island.

Norway Can Do It . . What About Us?

In Norway the school children are fully conscious of one of their country's greatest resources—the forests. They do not merely learn this, and let it go at that.

Every spring, all over the land, for two or three days, the boys and girls plant trees. Under the supervision of their teachers, and the municipal forester, they take the tiny spruce and fir trees from county nurseries and plant them wherever directed. It may be on either public or private property. The boy digs the hole, and the girl plants the tree.

At noon they eat the lunches they have brought from home, and make a hot drink over a campfire. Here is a fine opportunity for the forester to give some useful hints on safety in the woods. When the day's work is over, they often finish off with a dance.

The whole scheme developed from the example set by the poet Henrik Wergland, about a 100 years ago. When he went walking he would carry some tree seeds with him, and scatter them everywhere. The present plan is the work of the Norwegian "Skogsselskap" — a woods, or forest association. It is entirely voluntary, and the school children love it.

Bees Beat Wonder Drugs

Even bees are being dosed with "miracle" drugs. Penicillin failed to check American foulbrood in Pennsylvania tests, and sulpha thiazole gave questionable results. But it was found that some queens were resistant to foulbrood, and produced colonies not so susceptible to infection.



THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes
and to matters of interest to them*

Winchester

by Florence P. Mortimer

Some little while ago I received a letter from the Hon. Diana Darling, Secretary for the Hampshire (Eng.) Federation of Women's Institutes, and it seemed to me that much of what her letter contained would be of interest to other Institute women so I am passing some of it on.

Miss Darling first spoke of the W.I. tapestry. The final details have not been worked out but the subject is to be "Women in War" and it is to be embroidered by selected W.I. members from the whole of England and Wales in the Winchester stitch. This is a stitch employed by a band of embroideresses in Winchester who have done a great deal of work (hangings, mats, footstools etc.) for Winchester Cathedral.

The design has been done by Miss Blunt of Winchester and the work will take at least two years to finish. Three embroidery schools have been held in the city, at which leaders from the different counties have learned the stitches, and they have now returned to their different branches to teach other chosen workers. Hampshire has taken a leading part in the organization of the work through Mrs. Little, a member of the National Federation Handicrafts sub-committee, and herself a beautiful embroideress. There is, of course, no Institute in Winchester itself, it being a city, but the Hampshire's offices are there. The County has 196 branches with a membership of 10,000 and branches are being formed all the time and most members are very keen on handicrafts.

Hampshire was very much in the front line during the war, many towns and villages being badly bombed. The whole of the southern half of the county was a defense area with regulations as to who could go in or out. The largest part of the Invasion Army sailed from Hampshire ports (Southampton, Portsmouth etc.) before D. Day and many Mulberry installations and landing craft were made at Southampton. During that time Institute members heard many secrets and saw many mysterious things and it is to their great honour that no information was given away.

The chief official war work of the Institute was the preservation of fruits and from 1940 to 1945. Hampshire Institutes made 207,909 lbs. of jam and jelly, representing a year's ration for 23,994 people. Camouflage nets were also made.

Many Canadian soldiers were quartered in the villages, and many Hampshire girls have married and come to



Winchester tapestries.

Canada. Winchester itself was often crowded with both Canadian and American troops, who came in to the Red Cross Clubs from their camps round about. At various times it was also full of people from the bombed places on the coast. Very fortunately only two or three bombs fell in the city and these did no damage.

I would like to try to tell you a little about Winchester itself, a city that I once knew well. It is an old city, one of the oldest in England and was the first capital in the time of King Alfred.

The river Itchen runs through it and on through very charming meadows under the grassy downs. The city contains many old buildings and relics, for instance Winchester College, one of the great boy's schools of England, ranking with Harrow and Eton. This was founded by William of Wykeham in the 13th century and has a Latin motto which translated reads "Learn, leave, or be licked."

The table of King Arthur hangs on the wall of the guest hall in the Castle. This table is round and is divided into 25 sections, one each for the King and his 24 knights, each knight's name being at his place. The centre contains the Rose of England. The west gate of the city is in good preservation but is the only part left of the once surrounding wall.

On St. Catherine's Hill is an old maze, the origin of which is not known, although legend says it was made by one of the monks as a penance.

The Cathedral built by the Normans, in the 11th century, contains a wonderful Reredos, and has a carved black

basalt font of which only seven exist in England. The west window of the Cathedral is a thing of beauty, and to stand under it with the setting sun shining upon it, makes one gasp at its magnificent colouring. There is an odd thing about this window. During the time of Cromwell his soldiers tried to destroy the Church and much of the glass was broken, but the faithful people of Winchester gathered up the pieces and in times of peace it was restored, but if you look closely you will notice an arm or a leg, or even a head, where it should not be.

By the year 700 all Hampshire was called Christian. When Egbert became ruler in 800, St. Swithin was Bishop of Winchester. He asked at his death that he should be buried outside the church where "the sun might shine on him, the rain fall on him and the feet of people pass over his head." When on July 15, one hundred years later, his bones were removed to a shrine within the Cathedral, a

great thunderstorm occurred, giving rise to the popular superstition concerning St. Swithin's Day.



"Teaching the Stitch"—Standing between the two workers and wearing the pearl necklace is the Mrs. Little referred to in the article.

Dress Up Those Spring Menus

by Evelyn Walker

With the coming of spring we all get that feeling of wanting something new—new Easter bonnet, new dress, and not least of all—new food ideas. Here are some which you might like to try out. They are guaranteed to put new life into a tired meal and gain new smiles of approval from the whole family.

For those raw windy evenings, this sandwich spread will warm the coldest hearth.

PIMENTO SANDWICH SPREAD

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 1 T. sugar | 1/2 t. salt |
| 1 T. butter | 2 hard cooked eggs |
| 1 T. flour | 1 pkg. cream cheese |
| 3 T. vinegar | 1 T. grated onion |
| 1 egg, beaten | 3 T. chopped pimento |
| 1/2 c. cream | |

Cook the sugar, butter, flour, vinegar, beaten egg, cream and salt on low heat until thick. Remove from heat and add chopped eggs, cheese, onion and pimento. Place in fruit jar and keep in refrigerator.

And do you often wish you could find a new way to use up left over potatoes? Incidentally you will be helping save wheat for a still hungry Europe at the same time.

POTATO PANCAKES

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| 2 large raw white potatoes | 2 T. flour |
| 1 T. minced onion | 1 1/2 t. salt |
| 2 eggs, unbeaten | pepper |
| | melted fat |

Wash and pare potatoes; grate on fine grater. Quickly stir in onion, eggs, flour and seasonings. Drop onto greased skillet, spreading thin.

NOTE: Mixture turns dark on standing.

This one is really delicious.

SWEET POTATO AND CRANBERRY DISH

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 5 peeled, cooked, medium sized sweet potatoes | 1/4 c. orange juice |
| 1/2 c. sugar | 1/4 t. salt |
| 2 T. grated orange rind | 3/4 c. cranberry sauce |

Cut potatoes in half lengthwise. Arrange in shallow baking dish. Combine sugar, grated orange rind, orange juice and salt; place over heat and bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Pour over potatoes and bake in a moderate oven (375) for 30 min. basting after the first 15 min. Remove from oven, spread with cranberry sauce and bake for 15 minutes longer.

Tired of Baked Beans on Saturday night? Try this with hot Tomato Sauce.

BEAN CHEESE ROAST

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 lb. cooked beans (2 c.) | 1 c. bread crumbs |
| 1/2 lb. cheese | 2 eggs |
| 1 onion | salt and pepper |
| 1 T. butter | paprika |

Drain liquid from beans, run beans and cheese through ricer (or mash with fork). Cook onion in butter, combine ingredients, add seasonings and beaten eggs. Mold in a loaf or roll, moisten with melted butter and water and cover the top with buttered crumbs. Bake in a moderate oven, 350 until done.

We still have to be very careful of our sugar but here is a recipe which may help you.

SUGARLESS FRUIT BARS

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1/2 c. melted shortening | 3/4 c. flour |
| 1/2 c. molasses | 1/2 t. baking soda |
| 2 eggs | 1/2 t. nutmeg |
| 1/2 c. nuts | 1/4 t. each allspice and cloves |
| 1 c. raisins | 1/2 t. salt |

Combine shortening and molasses. Then add eggs, nuts and raisins. Sift together flour, soda, spices, and salt. Stir into first mixture, blending thoroughly. Then pour into greased and floured pan. Bake in moderate oven, 375 for 20-25 min. or until done. When cool, cut in bars.

We like this too, although it does use a bit of sugar.

SOUR CREAM SPICE PIE

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 c. seedless raisins | 1/4 t. ground cinnamon |
| 1 c. diced apples | 1/4 t. ground cloves |
| 3/4 c. sugar | 1/4 t. ground nutmeg |
| 1/2 c. thick sour cream | 1/2 t. salt |
| 1/2 c. sour milk | |

Wash raisins, dry, cover with sour milk and cream and let stand for several hours. Add sugar, spices and salt and the apples. Mix thoroughly and pour into a pie tin lined with rich pastry. Cover with pastry and bake in a hot oven 375 to 400 for about 25 minutes.

Finally, here is a way to serve fish which will appeal to anyone—fish lover or not.

WEST COAST CASSEROLE

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 c. cooked flaked fish | 1/2 c. raisins |
| 1 c. soft bread crumbs | 2 T. chopped sour pickles |
| 1 c. med. white sauce, or | 1/4 c. mayonnaise |
| 1 can mushroom soup | |

Arrange in layers (last three ingredients in centre) in baking dish. Cover with crushed potato chips or corn flakes. Bake in hot oven until heated through.

A Month With the W.I.

"Very amusing" is the comment made by the publicity convenor for Aubrey-Riverfield when the members were asked to compose short verses on the W.I. This effort by their president we are passing on for all to enjoy.

"I'm proud to be a member of the good old W.I.

And now to prove my statement, I'll try to tell you why.
The high ideals it sets for us, the social life it brings,
It helps to make us large in thought, scorn little petty things.

We learn some new ideas, and pass along our own,
And so for years the membership has grown and grown
I could go on for hours and take up all your time,
But I've had enough trouble in making this thing rhyme."

The reports show no slackening of interest in the work of the Personal Parcels, many branches are sending their fifth box by this time. The spreading of cheer in the community is another activity in which, as usual, all are engaged, either through sunshine baskets, gifts or personal calls.

Argenteuil: Arundel held a military whist party. \$35 was realized and \$15 of this sum was donated the local Athletic Ass'n. for the skating rink. Plans are being made for a demonstration by Miss Walker on "Milk Dishes." Brownsburg heard a talk on conditions in Europe and America by Mr. Jas. McGibbon. He also read an article on Atomic Energy. Card parties are being planned to replenish the treasury. Frontier had practical talk by Mr. Peters of the Lachute High School on "Beautifying the Home Grounds". Lachute reports a record attendance of 50 members. Films were a feature of the programme dealing with Protestant Education in Quebec and scenes from New Zealand and Gaspé. Morin Heights held a campaign for members with gratifying results, 10 names were added to the roll and more have promised to join. A splendid endeavour which other branches might emulate in this "anniversary year". Mrs. J. D. Davis, who organized the branch, gave a talk on Institute work. \$15.75 was realized by a military whist. Pioneer held a darning contest with prizes, the men acting as judges. Upper Lachute and East End; the convenor of Welfare & Health had charge of the programme and gave a talk on Home Nursing. "Your Mind can keep you Young", was also discussed.

Brome: Abercorn sponsored a shower for a war bride and dismisses another worthwhile project with the terse state ment, "are providing hot lunches for the school".

Bonaventure: Port Daniel entertained the Prov. Convenor of Nat. & Inter. Relations, Mrs. H. H. Mortimer, who gave a timely talk on Canadian Citizenship. She also showed a W.I. greeting card sent her from England. Shigawake; these new branches can set us all an example of promptness, their report was in the mail immediately after the meeting.

A community "get-together" during the holidays was a feature of that report.

Chat.-Huntingdon: Aubrey-Riverfield is furnishing money for hot lunches in the Howick school. Several members gave demonstrations on handicrafts, and stories and instrumental music made a pleasing programme. (See opening paragraph for contest) Dundee held a card party and dance and donated \$5 to "Friendly Home". A paper on U.N. was given by Mrs. Smallman and the principal, Mr. Russell Mosher, discussed "The Development of the Human Brain". Howick donated a quilt to a war bride. Rev. J. McPherson was the guest speaker and stressed the need for waging an all out battle for Temperance. Hemmingford arranged a reception for their ex-service men and women. A feature of this event was the story of the building of the Alaska Highway given by Mr. S. D. Cunningham who had spent four years with the U.S. Engineers on this project. Valentines were exchanged and a "White Elephant" table netted \$10, the sum going to "Save the Children". Huntingdon assisted the Girl Guides in a dance and card party to raise funds to buy uniforms for the High School Boy's Band. This band is playing at the Musical Festival in Montreal. A talk on Health was given by the Co. Nurse, Miss Bustard, and a flower quiz was held.

Compton: Canterbury had a demonstration on rug making and a true or false mineral quiz was held. A card party is being planned to raise money and a travelling basket is going around for the same purpose. Each member is to buy an article from the basket and put in another, then send it on its way again. East Clifton reports a paper on Nat. & Inter. Relations with an instructive quiz on the same subject, prizes were given for the highest score.

Gaspé: Wakeham made good use of their rollcall, "A Suggestion for Community Betterment", when it was turned into a panel discussion for their programme.

Gatineau: Eardley celebrated their 28th anniversary. The minutes of the first meeting were read and the candles on the birthday cake blown out by the oldest member, Mrs. T. E. Muldoon. A demonstration on making ice-cream was given and interlude spent in "reminiscing". Rupert voted money to assist with hot lunches in (please note) *three* schools. Wright had a programme on Health. A paper entitled "Health on the March" was followed by a health quiz. A demonstration was held on how to fill a hot water bottle and wringing a hot fomentation. A surprise box netted \$4 for Institute funds. Wakefield is also furnishing hot lunches in their school, through donations the fund for this purpose now totals \$132.85. The superintendent of the power plant at Farmer Point addressed the meeting and a technicolour film on British Guiana was shown.

Pontiac: Bristol Busy Bees gave \$10 towards snow re-

moval and heard a paper on "What Radar soon will do for you". Elmside discussed some cold weather suggestions and "Training for Citizenship". Shawville studied the formation of a Parent-Teacher Ass'n. with Mr. Tolhurst, principal of the school as guest speaker. \$20 was voted the Q.W.I. Service Fund and \$10 to "Save the Children". Stark's Corners donated \$15 toward furnishing a room in the Community Hospital and also made sheets for the same cause. A lengthy programme is reported, readings and poems concluding with a Biblical quiz. One member has just celebrated her 90th birthday and was suitably remembered. Quyon sent a box of groceries to a needy family.

Richmond: No branch reports, but an account of a busy semi-annual meeting has been received. This county is celebrating its 25th anniversary and a committee was appointed to make suitable plans to commemorate this event at the annual meeting. \$15 was voted to assist with hot lunches in the Richmond High School and a report of the Prov. Board meeting was discussed.

Rouville: Abbotsford sponsored a social evening of cards and games for the community.

Sherbrooke: Brompton Road members are planning to meet once a week for Red Cross sewing. A popular contest is noted, making words from "Women's Institute". Belvidere voted \$10 to QWI Service Fund, \$5 to the Boy Scouts

and a generous amount for the Sherbrooke Hospital county project. Sugar saving recipes were exchanged, a bread contest held and a loaf of bread was raffled. Cherry River is making plans to assist their general funds. "Useful Hints on Homemaking" were discussed. Lennoxville is renting their room for a kindergarten class this season. Orford welcomed a new member. An article, "Women of Canada", was read and "Famous Canadian Women" formed the rollcall.

Stanstead: Ayer's Cliff reports hot lunches are being served to 37 pupils and a dance was sponsored to raise funds. Beebe voted \$90 as their share of the Sherbrooke Hospital county project. The programme consisted of a paper on Ungava, or New Quebec, and musical selections. A concert is being planned. Minton had a sale of valentines and the proceeds replenished W.I. funds. Stanstead North enjoyed a visit from the county president, Mrs. H. Cass, who gave a report of the Prov. Board meeting. A gift was presented to a faithful member. Tomifobia is planning to pack a box for "Save the Children". This is to include a quilt and blocks are to be brought in by the members. One member has donated a complete top for that purpose. Way's Mills made plans for a sale to be held in the spring. \$7 was voted for school equipment to be purchased by the governor of Education and the teacher.

Impressions from the Provincial Board Meeting

Rural women have a very vital part to play in the development of our country. United as they are in such an organization as the W.I. the contribution they can make is being realized more and more by other groups all working towards the same goal, improvement in conditions which affect both rural and urban women. That was, perhaps, the feeling that predominated at this meeting as practical expression of the need for co-operation between these two classes was shown in various ways.

Miss Marion Stewart, of the Health Study Bureau, Toronto, paid tribute to the part played by women in their extensive survey of health conditions in all sections of Canada. Bulletins are sent out monthly to local convenors of Welfare and Health and she asked that full use be made of these and the questionnaires filled in and returned to them. This would give the Bureau the information needed in the campaign for adequate medical service for every Canadian family.

Another request for co-operation came from Mrs. Turner Bowen of the National Council of Women, Montreal. A brief is being prepared asking for amendments to the Civil Code as it affects the status of married women in this province. A committee composed of representatives of all women's groups, both rural and urban and of both nationalities, has been formed to draft this Brief and Mrs. Chas.

Smallman, president of the Q.W.I., was asked to represent that organization on the Advisory Committee.

Junior work received much attention. At the request of the supervisor, Mrs. Geo. McGibbon, a committee was appointed to assist her in this work. This consists of Miss Rena Caldwell and Mrs. Howard Cass and many practical suggestions were made which should create more interest in this phase of Institute activity.

The biennial convention of the F.W.I.C. is being held at Halifax the first of June and counties were asked to hold their annual meetings as early as possible so that all reports could be received before that time. The first convention of the A.C.W.W. is also being held this year at Amsterdam and Mrs. Smallman was appointed to represent this province at that gathering.

In preparation for the annual meeting in June the usual committees were appointed. The chairman of the Nominating Committee is Mrs. H. Cass and of Resolutions Mrs. C.E. Conley.

This is anniversary year for the Institute, 50 years of service for "Home and Country" have been completed. Here is a thought to leave with you, expressed by the president, "I would suggest that, during this year, each branch make some recognition of this event. We do appreciate all the organization means to us. Let us interest others because of this."



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec
Department of Agriculture*

Three Acres More of Grain per Farm

**Andre Auger, Chief of the Field Husbandry Branch,
discusses grain production for 1947**

There are a number of reasons why Quebec farmers should make a determined effort to grow more grain during the 1947 season. Demands for livestock products will be strong and an effort will doubtless be made to increase their production — but more livestock on the farms means more feed needed. There is no guarantee that we will be able to get any increased amount of Western grain during the coming season, and we should make sure of sufficient amounts of home-grown grain for our own feeding use. Extra grain can be grown on parts of our farms now producing mediocre crops of hay or pasture; as a matter of fact, the use of these low-producing areas of the farm for other purposes will increase the general productivity of the farm. And it has been proved that an abundant grain production will result in a higher return from the farm at the end of the year.

We cannot afford not to take advantage of the markets which are now open to us, for the opportunities they offer are real ones. Canada has undertaken to supply 350,000,000 pounds of bacon, 125,000,000 pounds of cheese, 600,000 cases of evaporated milk and 83,000,000 dozens of eggs to Britain in 1947. In order that these shipments may be made, pork production must be increased 19%, dairy products must be increased 6%, and egg production 10% over 1946. And in 1946 we delivered only 65% of our bacon contract, 76% of our cheese contract, and 72% of our egg contract.

There is a guaranteed price of 20 cents a pound for cheese and this contract will run until the end of March, 1948. The assured price for bacon will be \$25.00 per 100 pounds from September 1947, and at least \$22.50 during 1948, and Britain will take all we can send in excess of the contract quantity.

And how about butter? Our present production is barely enough to maintain a ration of six ounces a week. The demand certainly exists, and there are indications that better prices may be obtained before too long. In all these classes of farm production the demand exceeds the present supply; it seems evident that this demand will continue and the prices offered are attractive.

But even to fill the contracts that we have entered into, farm production must be increased. So far as livestock feed is concerned, during the past few years we have been able

to depend upon Western grain, and the Federal feed-grain subsidy policy has enabled us to buy this grain at reasonable prices. Our readers will be interested to know that during the last four years, freight subsidy paid on grain coming into the Province of Quebec has cost the Federal treasury an average of \$5,000,000 a year. This assistance is promised for at least another year — but the question is, will the Western provinces have the grain to ship this year?

Realizing the urgency of getting more barley for use as livestock feed, the Federal Department of Agriculture has asked the Western provinces to transfer 1,900,000 acres from wheat production to barley production in 1947, and in order to make the proposition attractive, is willing to pay a bonus of \$5.00 an acre for the barley. Naturally, everyone expects that there will be a considerable increase in barley production in 1947 in the West, but that does not mean that much if any of this increase will be available to livestock men in the East. If the Western farmers get \$5.00 an acre for growing barley, and use their extra barley to feed hogs, so as to get in on the bacon market to a larger extent than they have been doing up to now, there will not be much grain left over for the East to buy. Pork production is going to look very attractive to the three Prairie Provinces, and, adding to what has already been pointed out, the fact of difficulties of transportation and the possibilities of smaller harvests in the West, it is clear that we cannot safely depend upon Western grain to take care of any increased livestock production here.

This does not mean, however, that we should sit back and say, "Well, I guess we'll have to cut down our livestock production, then." This would be a serious mistake. By all means let us keep the animals we have and add to them. Already we are feeding more than we did last year. And let us make sure that we can raise more stock by growing their feed here on our own farms.

In 1946 there were more than 4,000,000 acres of hay and 2,786,000 acres of pasture in Quebec—and a lot of these acres were producing practically nothing. It is recommended that 333,700 acres of hay land and 41,300 acres of pastures be taken out and sown to grain. This will take 375,000 acres of non-productive land out of hay and pasture and make it available to use for grain. Proper

management of the hay and pasture land left can increase its yield, so the net result could be to get as much or even more hay and pasture than before, on less land, and a much larger grain crop.

It may be said that we cannot grow grain here as cheaply as we can buy it from the West. In some districts this may be true, but this is not the case on good farms. The Farm Contests have proved that increasing grain production has always resulted in larger crops of hay, and they have also shown that a farmer's revenue increases in direct proportion as he increases his grain production. And this is not hard to understand, for as a general thing farming is more of a way of life than a paying trade. After all, what counts most, when the books are being balanced at the end of the year, is not how much money was taken in as how much remains after the expenses have been taken care of.

I admit that it was possible to make money with cows and pigs, these last few years, even though large amounts had to be spent to buy feed. We can be thankful that there were ceilings on grain prices, that there were no drops in the prices for farm products and that a freight bonus of about 22 cents a bushel was paid by the Federal Government. But these conditions will not last forever, and sooner or later we must come back to a less artificial system of operating. There is a move on foot now to have freight rates increased by 30%. Who is going to pay this increase if not the consumer?

Once more I must emphasize that there is a great danger that grain shipments from the West will be considerably smaller in 1947, simply because it will be more profitable for Western farmers to feed their grain to hogs than to sell it on the market as grain.

During the last four years we have imported each year, on the average, 32,547,447 bushels of grain of all sorts

(wheat, barley, oats, rye), more than 17,398 tons of screenings and 303,473 tons of mill-feeds. Obviously, we cannot grow all the grain we need, especially with the numbers of livestock we are now raising. But, we can reduce the quantity of feed that we must import and we can do it in two ways. First, we can take some land out of hay and pasture (land that is producing poor hay and is poor pasture land) and put it into grain. Secondly, we can do something to increase our yields per acre. Look at the figures in the table where yields per acre in Ontario and in Quebec are set side by side.

	Average, 1939-1943		Higher yields
	Quebec	Ontario	in Ontario
Oats	26.7	36.0	9.3
Barley	24.3	30.3	6.0
Mixed grain	28.4	35.7	7.3
Hay (tons)	1.38	1.77	0.39

Better drainage, better land preparation, the use of good seed, fertilizer and lime will help to increase acre yields. And if we consider the other suggested method, of taking 375,000 acres of surplus hay and pasture land and using it for grain, 125,000 acres of barley and 250,000 acres of mixed grain, we could double our barley production and increase mixed grain production by almost 40%. If, at the same time, we could manage to bring our yield figures up to those of Ontario, we would be practically self sufficient and would have to import practically nothing from the West. This would mean a saving of over \$20,000,000 to Quebec farmers.

The important thing right now is to increase barley and mixed grain production, for these are the grains which turn hogs into pork. Barley is a little more demanding than oats, for it must have a better prepared soil and, for best results, should follow a hoed crop in the rotation. It is particularly adapted as a crop to follow sugar beets or potatoes. Much more barley should be grown in the Lake St. John district, for the land there is particularly adapted to this crop; and it is a crop which can get along with a shorter growing period than oats.

In Ontario, they grow more mixed grain than we do, and they get larger yields. They have 946,000 acres; we have 251,400 acres. They get 26.6 bushels to the acre; we get 44.7. As far as total production is concerned, they harvest 42,286,000 bushels; we harvest 6,687,000 bushels. The practical result is that Ontario farmers have to buy less grain per animal than we do.

In 1942 a drive was put on by the Quebec Department of Agriculture for an increase in mixed grain production: the result was that 99,000 more acres went into this crop. This year, the objective is **THREE MORE ACRES OF BARLEY OR MIXED GRAIN PER FARM**. We can do it, we can profit by doing it, and there is every reason why we should do it.



Three more acres of grain on every farm is Quebec's goal in 1947

Increased Livestock Production Needed

From a radio talk by Pierre Labrecque, Chief, Livestock Branch

The question of increased production from Quebec farms is to the fore this spring, and the order of the day is "More grain on every farm this year". This is attacking the problem at the base, for feed is necessary before livestock production can be increased. Suggestions for getting larger grain crops have already been given by my colleague, Mr. Auger.

With regard to livestock and livestock products, cheese and butter particularly, it is my opinion that, for the present at least, we should aim rather to increase our production per cow than to attempt to build up larger herds of dairy cattle. Under present conditions our farms are supporting just about as many head of livestock as they can. But there are many ways by which each animal's production can be stepped up. Our farmers know this, but it may be that all of them have not been putting everything they know into practice.

Where it is possible to obtain chemical fertilizers, pasture fertilization, done in good time in the spring, will show its value in terms of increased milk flow, especially during the summer months. We realize, of course, that it is a long-time job to build up a herd's yield, and that it is a job that demands constant effort and attention if success is to be attained. Nevertheless, it is something that we will have to pay particular attention to in the very near future, and the sooner we make a start on it the better.

It is a job that calls for unceasing selection, using the R.O.P. as a guide, and for the more general use of high quality sires to breed high productivity into our herds. Health of the individuals in our herds must be carefully watched to be sure that no epidemics of contagious disease have a chance to get started in them. We must make use of every item of good management that will enable us to get our herd average in milk production up to where it should be, but where it is, at the moment, far from being.

Hog Production

The bacon contract which Canada has entered into is a large one, but we can fill it if we look to our production methods. It is estimated by the Bureau of Statistics at Quebec that 24,000 more sows farrowed in the last few months of 1946 than in 1945. From this we can expect that something like 200,000 more hogs will be marketed in the early part of this year. Better prices for pork, recently announced, will likely induce farmers to continue increasing their hog production and we can assume that there will be still more hogs going to slaughter during the latter part of 1947, provided, of course, that we can find the feed for them.

Certain precautions must be taken if we are going to raise the greatest number possible of our hogs to market

weights. The number of brood sows must be increased, and every effort should be taken to have them farrow twice a year. There is a disgracefully high percentage of deaths of young piglets, as much as 20% in some periods, and something should be done to reduce these deaths as much as possible.

Poultry

Quebec poultrymen have made great strides in the past few years, and much credit is due them. However, there is still a long way to go before we are in a position where supply will approach demand.

One sure way to get more eggs, especially during the autumn, when demand is high, is to get chicks early in the spring. Order chicks a month earlier than usual, and the pullets will start laying in August and September, at a time when eggs are in greatest demand.

Pullets will come into lay earlier if they have plenty of room while they are growing. They need plenty of green feed, and plans should be made in good time to provide plenty of pasture for them during the summer months. Plenty of green range means less feed to buy which is a consideration particularly this year when grain is likely to be scarce. Good pasture, skim milk and whole grains will bring pullets into lay quickly and it will not be necessary to buy costly supplementary feed.

We have every confidence that Quebec farmers can work together, and can make use of every means at their disposal to increase their production so that the requirements of our own population and the demands of outside markets can both be met. Produce as efficiently and as economically as possible, make the best possible use of the available feed, always keeping in mind the slogan "More grain per farm this year."

Agricultural Merit For 1947

The Agricultural Merit Competition will be held this year in District No. 3, which includes the fifteen counties of Nicolet, Arthabaska, Wolfe, Megantic, Frontenac, Beauce, Lotbiniere, Levis, Dorchester, Bellechasse, Montmagny, l'Islet, Kamouraska, Riviere du Loup, Temiscouata, and the following Quebec and Montmorency parishes: l'Ange Gardien, Chateau-Richer, Ste. Anne de Beaupre, St. Joachim, Isle of Orleans, Giffard, Charlesbourg, Courville, Loretteville, Ancienne Lorette, Ste. Foy, Quebec.

Entries must be made before June 1st, and application forms are available from the agronomes or from the Department at Quebec. Pierre Turgeon was the winner in this district in 1942, when he won the Gold Medal with a score of 95.1%.

Pomological Society Winter Meeting

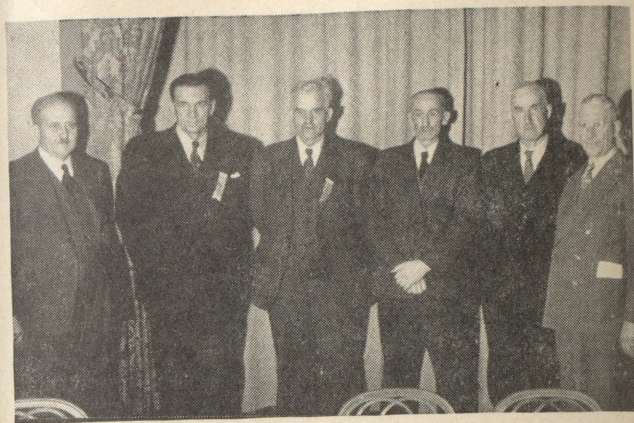
"The best salesmen for more apples are good apples" said W.J. (Bill) Tawse, speaking at the winter meeting of the Quebec Pomological Society on February 13th. Competition for a share of the consumer's fruit dollar is increasing, and apple growers will have to improve their marketing methods if they are to sell their crops. Costs of production, packaging and distribution will have to be cut; varieties not in demand will have to be eliminated from the orchards and proper methods of refrigeration as soon after picking as possible are essential if the apples are to reach the consumer in the best possible condition. The proportion of the higher grades must be increased, and to accomplish this he advocated careful attention to the spray programmes, proper thinning and the use of harvest sprays to intensify coloration.

Well over 200 growers and their friends assembled at the Queen's Hotel for the annual winter meeting, both French and English sections meeting together this year. President Roswell Thompson welcomed the delegates, noting in his opening address that the past year had been a good one except for owners of Duchess trees, who had been blessed with such abundant crops that much of it had to be left to rot. He suggested that every other Duchess tree should be removed and replaced with something better, looking to the eventual elimination of this variety from our orchards.

C.E. Petch reported on the spraying experiments which are being continued in the Rougemont area. The micronized sulphur sprays, as in 1945, gave good results. It appears that there are elemental sulphurs that can replace lime sulphur completely as preventatives against apple scab, and the use of the elemental sulphurs results in an annual crop increase of around 25% over lime sulphur sprayed trees; this increase is obtained without sacrificing bud or terminal growth. The average size of apples sprayed with elemental sulphurs is smaller than those sprayed with lime sulphur, but there is very little foliage injury when elemental sulphurs are used.

E.P. Grant of the C.E.F. outlined methods for preparing apple products commercially, such as dried apples, apple sauce, frozen apple sections, apple juice, cider vinegar, apple butter and apple flavouring. Prof. L.G. Heimpel of Macdonald College demonstrated with lantern slides some of the newer equipment in farm machinery.

R.E. Robinson of Ottawa outlined the growth of the present system for grading fruits and vegetables, and his talk set off a lengthy discussion, led by J. H. Lavoie of the Provincial Department, of the question of apple grading and of the relation between the Federal and the Provincial regulations. It was established from the discussion that the Provincial regulations, calling for inspection at the point of consumption, differ from the Federal regulations which provide for inspection at the shipping point. It was generally agreed that the present regulations should be more strictly enforced, and a resolution asking that this be done



A few veterans of the Pomological Society. *Left to right*—J. H. Lavoie, chief, Horticultural Division, Department of Agriculture; Edgar Standish (joined 1909); Arthur Laberge and Odilon Riendeau (1912); Morley Honey (1907); C. E. Petch (1912).

was adopted and forwarded to the Provincial Department of Agriculture. At the same time it was asked that the two sets of regulations be studied and brought into line with each other, and that a publicity campaign be undertaken by Quebec to acquaint all growers with the requirements.

Another resolution adopted was one asking that the Provincial Government give assistance to any grower or growers' co-operative wishing to erect cold storage plants. Provision already exists for this assistance to be granted to co-operatives, but apparently no demands for this assistance have been received by Quebec. However, with the increasing interest in cold storage, it appears that this state of affairs is due for a change.

It was decided that better representation would be obtained if five directors were to be elected at large, and a resolution to this effect was adopted. Notice was also given that at the next annual meeting a constitution amendment would be sought to set annual fees at \$5.00 for members owning less than 500 trees, \$10.00 for those with larger orchards.

K.B. Conger of Ottawa, guest speaker at the annual dinner, emphasized the need of meeting consumer preferences in marketing apples, and pointed out that the United Kingdom is interesting in buying some part at least of our 1947 apple crop. Gustave Monette discussed at length the question of whether or not apple trees should be taken into account in assessing farm land for taxation purposes, and gave it as his opinion that an apple tree, growing in an orchard, is immoveable property and therefore should be included in the valuation. Dr. George Gauthier of the Provincial Department represented the Hon. Laurent Barre, whose illness prevented him from attending the meeting.

Roswell Thompson was re-elected president for 1947, with Lucien Fontaine as vice-president. Directors will be Emilien Faille, Father Fernand, G. Beaudin, D. Laurie, J. Gillespie, A. Baillargeon, R. Primeau, W. A. Churchill and R. Thomas. The resignation of the French secretary, Lucien Laporte, was accepted with regret.

Canadian Ayrshire Breeders Had Record Year

1946 Was Best Year In the History of the Breed

Reviewing the accomplishments of the Ayrshire breed at the seventy-seventh annual meeting of the National Society, President Douglas Ness reported that more Ayrshire cattle had been sold, and at better prices, than ever before. During the year 12,378 registrations were recorded, with more to be finished, and total transfers were 12,818, which includes 3,885 head exported, about half of which went to the Middle West, which is new Ayrshire territory. The membership of the society has risen to a new high of 2,308.

Guest speaker at the luncheon at the Mount Royal Hotel on February 21 was the Hon. Jean Paul Sauve, Minister of Welfare and Youth, who emphasized the important role being played by such organizations as this in making agriculture a more profitable business. He expressed concern over the large number of farm youths who are seeking employment elsewhere than in agriculture, and outlined some of the steps which his department is taking to prepare young people to earn decent livings.

R.S. Hamer, chief, Production Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture, also spoke briefly, pointing out that an acute shortage of qualified veterinarians was holding up the progress of much important health of animals work. He promised that the T.B. programme, and also R.O.P.

testing, would be given more emphasis just as soon as qualified men could be secured in his department.

At the close of the luncheon, honorary life memberships were awarded to J.H. Black, Lachute, one of Canada's outstanding breeders and importers, to Gustave Toupin of Oka, who founded the St. Sulpice herd, and to James Howie of Scotland who has sent many famous Ayrshires to Canada.

At a sparsely attended business meeting following the luncheon, a resolution addressed to the leader of the Senate at Ottawa, urging defeat of the bill that would permit the manufacture and sale of margarine in Canada, was adopted. Also adopted was a resolution urging that high priority be given to grain shipments during the current boxcar shortage.

Archie W. Kains of London, Ont., was elected President for 1947, J.R. Pelletier will be vice-president, and the executive includes J.S. Hyde, Dundas; L.P. Evans, Gormley; W. Erskine Rodger, Lachute and Prof. G. Toupin, Oka. The six directors for Quebec were re-elected for a succeeding term. An amendment to the constitution adopted at the meeting provides for a separate director for British Columbia without adding to the total number of directors for Western Canada.

Chambly Farmer Wins National Barley Contest

Armand Fortier of Chambly, P.Q., took top honours in the inter-provincial finals of the National Barley Contest in the judging at Toronto last month, winning the title for Eastern Canada, an engraved Certificate of Merit and a cash award of \$200.00. Mr. Fortier took first place in his regional contest but placed second in the Quebec Province contest which was judged in Montreal.

H.K. Nesbitt of Britannia Bay, Ont., was second in the inter-provincial judging, followed by the Ste. Therese Seminary, Father Lemay, director. Donat Meloche of St. Louis de Gonzague and J.E. Bissonnette, Cedars, were in seventh and eighth place respectively.

The barley growing contest is sponsored by the brewing and malting industries and is organized in collaboration with Federal and provincial Departments of Agriculture with a view to encouraging the improvement of quality and yield of malting type barley throughout Canada. The Quebec Department of Agriculture extends congratulations to these growers, and to all others who took part in the contest, and promises that still greater incentives will be offered for prospective growers of barley and mixed grain in 1947.

Judges for the inter-provincial contest were Dr. L.H. Newman, Dominion Cerealists, Dr. G.P. McRostie, O.A.C., Guelph, Prof. E.A. Lods of Macdonald College, originator of the Montcalm variety. The contest, along similar lines, will be repeated in 1947.

Quebec Scientist Creates a New Tomato

A new tomato variety, "Quebec 5" has just been introduced by J.H. Lavoie, Director of Horticulture Service.

The new tomato is the result of five years of intensive research done by J.O. Vandal, a specialist in plant breeding, at the Deschambault Farm School and at the Faculty of Science of Laval University. It is a very early variety, which makes it a good type for growing in the northern part of the province, where the growing season is short.

It is a globe type, smooth, bright red in color, and in tests so far has produced a high percentage of grade 1 fruits. Growers who would like to try this new variety may secure seed by writing to the Market Gardeners' Section, Department of Agriculture, Quebec., enclosing ten cents. The supply of seed is small, and only $\frac{1}{32}$ of an ounce can be sent to any one person.

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Strippings

by Gordon W. Geddes

At last our farm operations have grown into the 'long pants' stage. That is, we have hired a full-time helper for the first time since we commenced our farm operations. I hope we do not have to return to short pants (a school-boy) for even they were getting pretty tight as our livestock increased and I passed the age where one is supposed to slow up a bit. So, you can imagine how much I did when our last school-boy put us back in the diaper stage as far as getting help was concerned. Our present helper is Lorne Bryan, a local boy who followed Horace Greeley's advice to 'Go West, young man' (while Horace stayed East and got rich).

Lorne worked his way clear across to British Columbia and then started back again. On the way he stopped in Saskatchewan to meet Ruth McConnell of Elstow whom he married and brought home with him. So Dot has a helper in the house which makes it nice all around. Ruth knows western farming but she finds things much different here, especially the trees which look as big to her as they do small to Lorne since he cut timber in British Columbia. Incidentally some B. C. boosters tried to convince Lorne that the Canadian maple was an evergreen which grows there. However, he sent home for some maple sugar which effectually killed that story. Ruth had never had any maple sugar either but for some strange reason she liked it as soon as she tasted it. When she asked us what we meant by tapping the maples we couldn't resist the evil temptation to tell her it meant to tap out the S.O.S. in Morse code on the tree with a hammer which meant Send Out Sap. The maples were quite ready to send it out too during the big January thaw for we cut a few in a poor state of health and the sap flowed readily.

Dot brought Ruth to the woods to see a big tree fall. Of course, Lorne and I didn't want them to miss anything so we let them 'saw' on it a while. I think they both felt that slaving over a hot stove wasn't so bad if you just had a

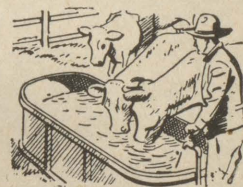


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man to keep it hot. Ruth finds the Quebec winter milder than in Saskatchewan but she'll have to try more than this one to be sure as this is a very mild sample. After the ground-hog saw his shadow we expected the change had come when the blizzard started a week ago. However, we ended the week in a thaw and heard a crow yesterday, Feb. 15th, so it is hard to know what to expect.

How Calves Pointed Out The Sickness Of A Farm

How some calves diagnosed their own trouble and helped to save an ailing farm was described recently by E. A. Kuck of Brookside Farms, New Knoxville, Ohio.

There had been a lot of trouble on this 420 acre farm. The chickens died off, forcing it out of poultry; the pigs died off, forcing it out of swine. The cows were afflicted with garget and Bang's disease, and were hard to get in calf. And there were big losses of calves from a virulent type of scours that veterinarians were unable to diagnose.

In an attempt to end these heavy losses a new calf barn was built. All the stalls were given a rough plaster job, and six of them a finishing coat. Soon it was found that the calves were eating the plaster on the finished walls.

Mr. Kuck began to wonder why the calves ate this plaster, and not the other. So he got an analysis of the finishing coat, which showed it was dolomite lime made up chiefly of calcium carbonate and magnesium carbonate. He also had tests of the soil on the farm; these showed it was low in magnesium.

So it looked as if the trouble might all be due to a lack of magnesium. Mr. Kuck ordered a carload of dolomite lime, using it both in the cows' mineral mixtures and the fields. After the calves had been fed milk from cows on the mineral mixture for about two weeks the scours began to clear up. The calves became bright and normal and stopped eating plaster. Within a month most of the garget had disappeared from the cow herd. Within six months most the Bang-affected cows were safely in calf. And calves began to arrive strong at birth.

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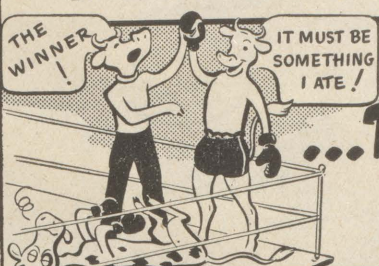
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That wasn't all. The corn and alfalfa crops on dolomite-treated land became much more vigorous; and yields soared. They, as well as the animals, were healthy.

So it was the calves' appetites that enabled an alert farmer to change heavy losses into good returns.

New Booklet on Perennial Border

The first printing of "Herbaceous Perennials for Canadian Gardens" by Isabella Preston, Division of Horticulture, has just been issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture. It is in the form of an illustrated 91-page bulletin (Publication No. 784). It covers everything that is known about the perennial border and deals in detail with its arrangement, care and cultivation, fertilizing, watering, and propagation.

Also there are separate chapters on insects pests and diseases, notes on species and varieties, together with lists of 25 perennials; of bulbous and smaller plants for the perennial border; of plants for positions that have very little sun; of plants for dry situations; and lists of perennials recommended for various sections in every province of Canada. For those who are not familiar with botanical names of plants, a list of common names covers 5 pages, with the Latin equivalents under which the plants are described.

A copy of the bulletin (Publication No. 784) may be obtained free by writing to the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Calf's Weight at Birth Clue to Future Growth

The weight of a newborn beef calf is a clue to the rate at which it is likely to grow, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has found. And because a calf's weight is one of the first measures of its development livestock scientists have studied its possible value in stock raising.

Their findings are based on 402 beef Shorthorn calves born as singles over a period of 14 years at the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md. The calves were from 112 cows bred to 28 different bulls. Average weight of the calves at birth was 70.5 pounds, but the range in weight was from 40 to 109 pounds. Calves that were heavier than the average tended to reach a weaning weight of 500 pounds sooner than calves that were lighter at birth. Among 72 steer calves fed to a slaughter weight of 900 pounds, those that were heaviest at birth and at weaning time generally reached slaughter weight the soonest.

The general results of the study indicates the desirability of giving the birth weight of calves some consideration both in the selection of breeding stock and in choosing animals to be fed for slaughter.

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SOLD BY LEADING MERCHANTS

The elderly treasurer of a women's aid society went into a bank to deposit the organization's funds. She handed the money to a hard-of-hearing cashier with the casual remark that it was "the aid money."

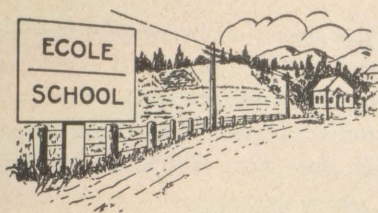
The cashier thought she said "egg money" and wanted to compliment her.

"Remarkable," he said, "isn't it, how well the old hens are doing these days?"

Passenger: "Give me a round-trip ticket."

Agent: "Where to?"

Passenger: "Back here, of course!"



LIVING AND LEARNING



Farm Forums in the Fourth Series

by Joseph Galway

Farm Prices received the closest scrutiny during this series as farm people sat down three Monday nights in a row and considered all the angles. Well, not quite three nights, because snow banks blocked the roads a bit on February 10, so that only 50% of the Forums were able to meet. But in spite of the weather, Secretaries reported good attendance and keen interest in the subject. It is not surprising to find interest in the subject of prices because farmers have had to battle that problem for many years. The reports indicate they are getting a little impatient with the whole affair. As one Forum said, "We don't mind following the principle of supply and demand if the manufacturer and the manipulator will keep their hands off." This expresses the general attitude. The alternative, they say, to a crippled "laissez faire" system, is a long term commodity agreement for farm products. Guaranteed prices in advance based on the average cost of product is

the goal our Forum members are aiming at.

Forums have been doing a few other things besides discussing prices this month. A variety of action projects are under way and only a few are reported in "What the Forums are Doing". Several communities such as Mansonville in Brome are involved in a number of jobs. Between the five Forums in that area, the following projects are under way: Warble fly campaign, Petition for a veterinary, Establishing cold storage locker facilities. Incidentally, all these Forums were organized this year except one. North Potton has been operating for two winters.

Inquiries for all kinds of information have been arriving at the Forum office. The section on "What Farm Forums are Asking" gives a fair sample of the type of information we are able to secure for our Forum members. I am sure that in many instances such information has resulted in a greater cash return. It is another indication of the effectiveness of extension services through groups.

What Farm Forums Are Doing

North Potton, Brome Co. "We are starting a campaign against warble fly as our action project."

Mrs. E. S. Bradley, Sec.

North Georgetown, Chateauguay Co. "I wish to state that this Forum received a letter from the Shawinigan Power Company stating they intend to put electricity on our road this year. Thanks a million for brushing them up. We have been trying to get it for the last ten years, without success."

Mr. Archie McCaig, Sec.

Austin, Pontiac Co. "We had great pleasure in having with us Mr. Neil Drummond, our local agronomist, as guest speaker tonight. Weekly reports have been sent to our local newspaper since early last fall."

Mrs. J. R. E. Garland, Sec.

Abbotsford, Rouville Co. "This Forum purchased a \$50.00 record player which is to be left in the Parish Hall for the use of the various community organizations."

Mr. W. B. Honey, Sec.

Hatley No. 2, Stanstead Co. "This group voted on and passed a resolution to buy a community sprayer for apple trees, potatoes, etc."

Mrs. Wallace Alexander, Sec.

Sandy Beach, Gaspé Co. "By way of trying to improve

local conditions we have decided to start a Farmer's Club."

Mr. Austin Miller, Sec.

Wright, Gatineau Co. "Mr. Petit, our local agronomist, gave us a talk on electricity. It is one of our action projects."

Miss Lyndia McConnery, Sec.

South Georgetown East, Chateauguay Co. "We have to build a new consolidated school because ours was burned last year. Most of the evening was taken on discussing this matter."

Mr. J. J. Anderson, Sec.

Lower Ormstown, Chateauguay Co. "We are taking up the matter of securing a veterinary. One is badly needed in the Ormstown district."

Mrs. William Rice, Sec.

Kinnear's Mills, Megantic Co. "Our action project is to secure a doctor for this community."

Mr. Allan Davidson, Sec.

Brooklet, Huntingdon Co. "A letter was read by Mrs. John Wallace of Herdman Forum from Mr. Billings, Inspector of Schools, accepting an invitation made by that Forum on behalf of the Hinchinbrook Forums to address a joint meeting of the ratepayers on the subject of consolidation of our local rural schools; It was decided that the meeting should be declared open to the public and a notice to that effect be published in the local newspaper."

Mrs. Fred Elliott, Sec.

What Farm Forums Are Asking

Floor Price of Butter

Kingscroft, Stanstead Co. "We would like to know the floor price of butter at the present time."

Mr. Carl Corey, Sec.

ANSWER: "During the past several years, minimum prices have been set up at which the Dairy Products Board would support the creamery butter market by buying butter at the minimum prices. In view of the shortage of butter, about this time a year ago, the price of butter was at the ceiling and all through the past summer the price was so far above the minimum that a schedule of minimum prices at which the Dairy Products Board would purchase butter was never established. You will recall that last spring the ceiling price of butter was increased 4c a pound and since about the middle of July last, the butter market has been at the ceiling price. Had there been minimum prices established for the year 1946-47 on the basis of the old minimum plus the increase of 4c per pound, the floor price at the present time would be 38c. delivered British Columbia, Ontario, and Quebec, and 1c higher in the Maritime Provinces.

*Department of Agriculture
Ottawa, Canada*

Use of Radio License Fee

Front Road Bristol, Pontiac Co. "Could you tell us how and where our Radio License fees are used?"

Mrs. Dalton Russell, Sec.

ANSWER: "The radio license fee of \$2.50 per year which the Government collects is used (1) to pay for the services of artists, writers, singers and others engaged for the purpose of broadcasting "sustaining" programs; that is, non-commercial or non-sponsored programs. This includes such presentations as "Stage 47", symphonies, talks, etc. (2) for announcers, producers, technical staff and clerical staff. (3) for the building and maintenance of 50,000 watt, high-powered stations in various parts of Canada. (4) for the International Short Wave Service, which broadcasts programs in six or seven languages to every part of the world. This transmitter, one of the finest in the world, is located at Sackville, N.B., with studios in St. John, N.B., and Montreal.

You can obtain a more complete picture of the activities of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation by writing for their booklet "This is the C.B.C." which is free. Address your request to Box 500, Toronto.

Trusting that this information will be of service to you,
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Wheat Price

Elmside I, Pontiac Co. "We would like to know where the 20c per bushel goes on wheat sold to Britain and also the 90c on wheat sold to other countries. Who handles this money during the five years?" *Mr. Howard Walsh, Sec.*

ANSWER: "As you are no doubt aware a five year pool for the period August 1, 1945, to July 21, 1950, has been established, the Western producers during this period being guaranteed an initial payment of \$1.35 per bushel, basis No. 1 Northern in store Fort William, Port Arthur or Vancouver.

Wheat for domestic use is sold at \$1.25 per bushel, wheat sold under the Wheat Agreement with the United Kingdom at \$1.55 per bushel and wheat to all other destinations at the prevailing world price. You will note wheat is sold domestically at 10c under the initial payment. The Canadian Wheat Board as the marketing agency collects on all sales of wheat and retains these funds out of which, of course, operating expenses are paid. These funds are held by the Canadian Wheat Board and the Board has the power under Order-in-Council to invest such moneys.

The Canadian Wheat Board derives its power to invest surplus funds under Order-in-Council P.C. 7310 dated 11 December, 1945. This Order reads in part:

"1. Subject as provided in the Canadian Wheat Board Act, 1935, when The Canadian Wheat Board deems it advisable for the purposes of its operations, the Board may invest any moneys now or hereafter in its possession or control whether arising from the sale of wheat or other grains or otherwise, in securities so acquired by it and re-invest the proceeds thereof or any part thereof in like manner from time to time.

2. (1) The Canadian Wheat Board shall, at the time of realization, use every capital profit realized by it from the sale of a security acquired under this Order in payment or part payment of expenses incurred by the Board in its operations."

I trust that the foregoing answers your inquiry, but if there are any points requiring clarification, kindly do not hesitate to write again. *Department of Agriculture
Ottawa*

Spread in Egg Prices

Rougemont, Rouville Co. "Taking present prices for eggs on the Montreal markets, the export price is 43c for A, whereas the wholesale price has dropped to 35c to 36c for the same grade. Who gets the difference in price?"

Mr. J. M. MacArthur, Sec.

ANSWER: "I suppose that you are taking those prices for eggs that have been delivered during the week of January 20th, and during that week being that the export prices were changed on the 2nd and reduced by .04½ per dozen, the prices have dropped for eggs received ungraded and not prepared for export.

I may add also that the receipts of eggs were heavy during January and the merchants did not want to get stocked with eggs for which they would have paid the fall price contract. All our registered egg grading stations preparing eggs for export have been paid .43 per dozen for their A large delivered in Montreal until January 28th inclusively.

On January 29th, the prices for export have dropped from .43 to .391½ for A large and now the exporters are paying .38½ for the same grade to the registered egg grading stations.

We get some complaints every year when the prices change from fall export contract to spring export contract prices. Last year, this change occurred on December 15th, but this year it has been prolonged until January 28th and it will be the same in 1947-48 as we have contracts signed with England for about 100,000,000 dozens of eggs to be shipped every year ending January 31st, 1949.

I presume that by this time you have noticed that the prices have been adjusted to work about evenly on export or domestic market. The prices given on domestic market are always lower than the export prices, but this is due to the fact that it costs about .03½ per dozen to prepare eggs for export. This preparation includes new cases, new flats and fillers, the stamping of the word "Canada" on each egg and the wiring of the cases.

Noe Henault

District Poultry Products Inspector

What Farm Forums Are Saying

Abbotsford, Rouville Co. "A good example of a fertilizer cartel as it affects the fruit grower who uses a 9-5-7 mixture is as follows: He gets 900 lbs. of Nitrogen, 500 lbs. of Phosphoric acid, and 295 lbs. of Potash per ton. This represents 1695 lbs. of commercial fertilizer and 305 lbs. of filler. For this filler which is of absolutely no value he is obliged to pay \$35.00 per ton, plus \$1.50 transportation. A few years ago we were able to buy the separate fertilizer constituents and do our own mixing, but the cartels have put an end to this by refusing to sell them separately."

Mr. W. B. Honey, Sec.

Sutton, Brome Co. "The Canadian Federation of Agriculture can do much as a medium between producer and governments, but it must be backed solidly by local organizations and Forums. They, by working together, can determine cost of efficient production and ability of the consumer to pay."

Mr. H. L. Hawley, Sec.

Hallerton, Huntingdon Co. "Cost of production is the only fair way for a farmer to be paid for his products. There is no sense in working for a life time on something that you are never paid for." *Mrs. Arthur Derrick, Sec.*

Spring Road, Sherbrooke Co. "Farming is more a Way of Life, than a Way of Living, but sometimes you don't make a living!" *Mrs. N. L. Cameron, Sec.*

East Farnham, Brome Co. "The manufacturer bases his profit on cost of production; why shouldn't the farmer?"

Mr. Fred Shufelt, Sec.

Low Forest & Kingsley, Compton Co. "Farmers should be able to obtain satisfactory prices without raising prices to the consumer beyond what he is able to pay by

cutting out the middle man and forming co-ops through which they could do their buying and selling."

Mrs. Stuart Merrill, Sec.

Front Road Bristol, Pontiac Co. "We think commodity agreements benefit both producer and consumer while cartels benefit only a limited few."

Mrs. Dalton Russell, Sec.

Gore, Huntingdon Co. "We think that if the wheat producers are making a profit now, they will be better off with the four year wheat agreement." *Mr. Allister Neely, Sec.*

Bristol, Pontiac Co. "One person remarked that the trouble with farming is that a farmer can never get enough capital to do much, but just plug along with what he started with."

Mrs. C. M. Young, Sec.

Council Helps Farmers

The Quebec Council of Farm Forums, as a member of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, has been co-operating with other organizations in the Province in the direct sale of War Assets motor vehicles to farmers. During the month of January a number of trucks were released for sale in this way, including 15 cwt., H.U.P., and 3 ton vehicles, all four wheel drive. Among those whose names were selected in draws held during the latter part of January were: Ernest Crook, Ayer's Clif; Frank Jones, R.R. 1, Joliette; Elmer Kelly, Pointe au Chene; Tom Seale, Morin Heights; Eric Ross Smith, Chateauguay Basin; William Smith, Rougemont; Stuart Webster, Massawippi; Arthur Loveland, Sawyerville, and Thomas Stuart, Arundel.

R. Alex Sim, Secretary of the Council, regrets to announce that no further applications for direct sales of these trucks can be received at the present time.

Farm Forums Flock In

Farm forums members are taking to the Macdonald College Journal in ever-increasing numbers. In one month over 120 subscriptions were received from forums members and their friends in Quebec alone.

The greatest number of subscriptions received at one time from a single forum was 12, from Arundel No. 1, while Arundel readership was swelled by four additional subscriptions from Arundel No. 2. There were nine from the Knowlton forum, six from Sutton, and five each from Clarendon No. 4, Farrellton, Hatley and Sutton. Other forums from Inverness to Shawville account for varying numbers of subscriptions, to make up the total of more than 120.

With this mark of support from farm forum members the Journal will be able to bring them even more and better material to supplement their work in developing sound farming and marketing practices and higher living standards.



THE COLLEGE PAGE

The Macdonald Clan

Notes and news of staff members and former students

Foreign Policy Begins at Home

The first Macdonald College War Memorial Address was given by the Hon. Vincent Massey, P.C., LL.D., on February 26th. In his talk Mr. Massey gave concrete and vital meaning to what had been approved by the War Memorial Committee as the significant part of our memorial, namely, "... a yearly address, the subject of which will be such as to promote an intelligent understanding of world affairs by young Canadians, and to inspire them to do their part toward the maintenance of freedom, tolerance and the improve of human relations."

The ceremony in the Assembly Hall was a most impressive one. The staff in their colourful robes entered the Hall in academic procession and took their seats on the platform. "O Canada" was sung, a short prayer was given, then student representatives placed a wreath on a memorial tablet placed at the centre of the stage. The Memorial Address followed, after a brief introduction of the speaker by Principal James. Mr. Massey was thanked by Vice-principal W.H. Brittain, the National Anthem was sung and the academic procession left the Hall.

A man who has spoken for Canada in the League of Nations, a fervent Canadian and a world citizen, Mr. Massey traced the growth of Canada to her present position as a world power. "Our moral position is strong," he said, "and our attitude to affairs abroad will be firm and constructive in proportion to the interest the average man and woman takes in the subject. In both wars our national sense of responsibility rose freely and splendidly to the challenge, but between the wars, when danger seemed remote again, we reverted to our old easy-going habits."

"If our approach to world problems was generally negative and often fumbling, was it because we as a people had accepted only in theory the importance of these things in our daily lives?"

"Part of the great drama which now holds the world's stage is the argument between two ways of life — democracy and totalitarianism. These two ways of life can live alongside each other with mutual forbearance, but there can be no compromise between them. They are irreconcilable because the difference between them turns on our conception of human liberty. This ideological theme is the

fundamental one today. It influences a current issue in which we Canadians have a special interest — the position in international affairs of powers like ourselves of middle rank.

"If we now want Canada to play a responsible part in the world at large, it is for us to play a responsible part as individuals at home. Many references have been made of late to the meagre time devoted in our Parliament to consideration of foreign affairs — often little more than a hasty debate in the expiring hours of a long session."

"But we live in a democracy and if we deem these things important, that will be reflected in the Parliament which represents us, not only through the men we send there, but also through the direct expression of our views as well."

Principal and Mrs. James accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Massey to the College. They were entertained in the afternoon at a tea in the Walter Stewart House, when their hosts were the members of the Home Economics Club, composed of third and fourth year students in the B.Sc. (H.Ec.) course. Present at Assembly in the evening were Dr. Tidmarsh, president of the McGill Graduates' Society, E.A. Leslie, chairman of the executive of the McGill War Memorial Committee, and T. H. Matthews, University Registrar.



A group of students from New Zealand visited the College recently. They are shown with their hosts for the day on the steps of the residence.

What Our Readers Think

FAIRS HAVE CHANGED IN 60 YEARS

Your story "How Can Our Fairs Do More?" is worth reading, and part should be published in our local papers.

I was the first exhibitor of Shorthorns and sheep at the first Quebec Provincial Exhibition some 54 years ago — also at Three Rivers, Sherbrooke, Montreal, Valleyfield, St. Scholastique and local fairs. I have exhibited for 60 years.

At one time Danville had a good cattle show. Sorry to say this fair is passing into other hands and is being moved outside Danville, to where they have a race track. We have not got farmers now who have good stock, outside of dairy cattle.

We also had a good county fair at Richmond. There is a nice covered arena where all judging is done, and formerly there was a good exhibition of dairy cattle, beef cattle and heavy horses. Sorry to say all farms are passing into the hands of people who do not care so much for breeding or showing good cattle.

Today everything has changed. People do not go to fairs so much to see good livestock, especially the young people. It's the midway and race track. Today young people do not seem to care for farm life. The older generation have passed on and no one can or does take their place.

I blame farmers for failing to teach their children the part that they should take in helping to make our local fairs better than they are today.

I must tell you the writer is 83, and doing this without glasses. So excuse mistakes.

H. I. Elliott, Danville, Que.

WINTER IS NOT SO BAD

I should like to take advantage of the invitation in your January editorial "An Even Better Way of Life", to give you my impression of life in the country.

The great bugbear is the winter. I maintain that, theoretically, we are meant to sleep as long as it is dark. This ideal can hardly ever be realized, but it can be aimed at, which would obviate lots of winter illnesses, I am sure.

Then change of occupation between winter and the outdoor seasons helps pass the winter in the country. Personally, I let all but the ordinary reading matter pile up during the outdoor season, for winter occupation. Also carpentry and attention to the woodpile are healthful winter occupations. A game which should be far better known is chess, which is far and away more interesting than checkers. Last, but by no means least, music which is tonic for the mind, body and spirit.

Few farmers have much idea of how thousands of town dwellers have to live, and what it costs them. Even if one is away from a community and the road is blocked in winter to all but horse-drawn traffic, life need not be so bad.

D. Constable F. Grece, Grenville, Que.

His Cull Potatoes Bring \$1.25 per 75 Pound Bag

With shortages of cereals and millfeeds many farmers are realizing more than ever before the value of cull potatoes for livestock feeding, says R. E. Goodin, potato fieldman for the Ontario Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Goodin cites Hill Simpson of Belwood, Ont., as one farmer who is a strong believer in the value of potatoes as feed. Mr. Simpson's figures show that he has actually obtained \$1.25 per 75 pound bag for his cull potatoes for feeding them to his hogs. Allowing 50 cents per bag for work and fuel used in cooking the potatoes, he is confident that his net returns would be at least 75 cents per bag right at home.

According to Mr. Simpson, his 90 hogs put on an average of one pound per hog daily. With pork worth 18 cents a pound, the daily gain of 90 pounds would be worth \$16.20. In addition to potatoes the daily ration contains \$6.00 worth of grower mash. Mr. Simpson adds this to an estimated investment cost on stock which amounts to 10 cents a day, bringing his net costs, less potatoes, to \$6.10 per day. Subtracting this from the daily gain worth \$16.20, he receives \$10.10 per day for 600 pounds of potatoes, or an average of $1\frac{1}{3}$ cents a pound, according to his conservative estimate.

Mr. Simpson believes that feeding potatoes is good business for at least two reasons: first, because all potatoes below Canada No. 1 grade are being used profitably at home. Second, only the best potatoes are being put on the market, thus cutting down on supplies in the trade and creating further demand by pleasing consumers.

Sows in Keener Demand

With the recent increase in hog prices, a renewed interest in hog raising in Canada has been apparent, says E. B. Fraser, Division of Animal Husbandry, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. Evidently there is considerable demand for bred sows and gilts of breeding age. If a good strain of hogs has been developed it is advisable to select some of the gilts for breeding purposes.

The common practice in selecting gilts is to pick them from a good litter. This is the logical thing to do, and if as well, the good litter is from a sow which has produced several litters of thrifty and high grading pigs, there is an even better chance that the chosen gilts will develop satisfactorily.

The good breeder will select gilts which are large and well developed, and which have been grown rather than fattened. The chosen gilts should be of bacon type, which means a combination of good length, depth and balance. The well balanced gilt is smooth and trim in the shoulder, well fleshed in the back, and carries a full, but trim underline, and with plump hams which are well filled down to the hocks.

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